

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LXX.]

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BIRTHS.

On September 14th, at Shanghai, to Dr. and Mr. BALEAN, a son.
On September 14th, at Shanghai, the wife of Mr. F. CROSSLEY, of a daughter.
On September 16th, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. M. WINTER, a son.
On September 16th, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. O. STRUCKMEYER, a son.
At Forebank, Magazine Gap, Hongkong, on the 26th inst., the wife of J. F. BOULTON, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At the Union Church, Hongkong, on 18th September, by the Rev. T. W. Pearce, JOHN WEMYSS, fourth son of the Rev. JAMES STEWART, D.D., V.D., of Peterhead, to EFFIE, second daughter of the late ALEXANDER GRAHAM, solicitor, Crieff, and Mrs. GRAHAM, Atholton, Crieff, Scotland.
On the 25th September, at West Southbourne, Hants, A. F. B. LIVESAY, Esq., R.N., of Alvestoke, to KATE ELEANOR, daughter of W. E. CLARKE, Hongkong.

DEATHS.

On September 8th, at Hankow, S. M. SEVERIN, aged 53 years.
On September 15th, at Chaosan, near Changsha, E. POHM, Capt. of N.D.L. steamer *Mei Yu*, aged 35 years.
On September 17th, at Shanghai, PETER C. SIMONSEN (U. S. Navy, retired), aged 60 years.
On the 25th September, BESSIE, the dearly beloved wife of R. H. A. CRAIG, Prison Department, Hongkong, after a long and painful illness patiently borne.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD, C.T.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 25th ultimo arrived on the 22nd instant.
The French Mail of the 27th ultimo arrived on the 27th instant.
The Siberian Mail of the 1st instant arrived on the 25th instant.
The English Mail of the 3rd instant arrived on the 29th instant.
The Siberian Mail of the 8th instant arrived on the 27th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The French cruiser *Alger* was at Chemulpo on the 10th inst.
Senor Marques, the new Governor of Macao, arrived in the Colony on the 22nd instant from Timor.
The boycott directed against Japan, according to the Peking *Gi Pao*, is assuming a serious aspect in Tientsin.
The Board of Revenue, according to a Peking contemporary, has decided to send a Commission to England to study financial matters.
Mr. Eitaki, the Japanese Consul-General at Shanghai, who has just been recalled to Tokyo, will probably be appointed Consul-General at Chientao.
Mr. C. W. Fairbanks, late Vice-President of the United States, arrived in Manila on Saturday by the *Siberia*. Mrs. Fairbanks accompanies her husband.

We regret to learn that two more deaths from cholera have occurred in Chefoo, viz., Mr. J. A. Masson, of the I. M. C., and a schoolgirl named Mabel Botham.

M. Fleutiaux, the French postmaster at Canton, was on Monday entertained to dinner on a flower boat by members of the French community prior to his departure for home on leave.

New premises for the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China have been built at Bangkok, and were formally opened on the 6th inst. by H. R. H. the Siamese Minister of Finance.

In some quarters it is rumoured that Sir Percy Scott, who made the China Squadron famous for its shooting, will return there as the flag officer commanding the squadron at no distant date.

Mr. Matsuka, Secretary of the Japanese Legation at Peking, will take up the duties of Consul-General at Shanghai, in succession to Mr. Eitaki, who has been appointed Consul-General at Chientao.

At Kuala Lumpur, a Mr. Macdonald, who is charged with culpable homicide by causing the death of a coolie at Uu Piah mine, has been committed for trial to the Assizes. The Chinese of Kinta are interested in the case.

Cholera has again broken out at the General Hospital at Hankow. There was an outbreak in the hospital last year, and it is alleged that these outbreaks have been due to the ice used, which was not supplied by the Hankow Ice Works.

Cholera prevails at or in the district of Ying-kow, Newchwang and Antung-Hsien, the *China Times* says, and the Japanese authorities in Japanese and Korean ports are exercising quarantine measures in respect of arrivals from those ports.

A newspaper at Samarang hears that a scheme is on foot to build a large dry dock at Macassar, the chief port of Celebes, along with all the workshops required for repairing ships. It appears that the Royal Packet Navigation Co., favours the idea.

We learn from the Japan newspapers that the death of Monsieur Albert Chaix, agent of the Messageries Maritimes Cie at Yokohama since 1907, was due to complications resulting from sunstroke. Monsieur Chaix died at the German Hospital.

After an absence of eighteen months Sir Haviland Walter de Sausmarez, Judge of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court for China and Korea, returned to Shanghai last week, accompanied by Lady de Sausmarez. They travelled from Home by the Siberian route.

Chungking at the head of the Yangtze Gorges will soon be lighted by electricity. Should the venture prove a success, of which there appears no doubt, a powerful water works plants will also be installed. Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Co. are the contractors. The plant is now on the way out.

Singapore is agitated over a ghost story. A local resident declares that he saw the ghost of a beautiful bronze woman, dressed in white, in Government House domain recently. The woman, who was searching for something that she had lost, conversed with the resident and then suddenly vanished.

The sanctuary of the famous Nikko Temples hitherto closed to visitors, is now opened on special application, each applicant being requested to pay 10 yen in the form of a "prayer fee." Japanese and foreign lovers of the antique continue to visit the sanctuary, and the revenue of the Temples is said to be increasing.

No confirmation has been received at the American Consulate at Shanghai of the rumour recently published in a Boston newspaper that the Hon. Amos P. Wilder, Consul-General for the United States at Shanghai, will probably be appointed to the position of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, in succession to the Hon. J. B. Reynolds. Dr. Wilder is at present in the States on furlough.

Discussing the recent Manchurian settlement, a San Francisco contemporary remarks:—"Sovereignty cannot be disassociated from power. We may repine as much as we please, but the sovereign of any country is he who has the power to compel obedience and does compel it. And upon that unquestionably sound theory the Mikado of Japan is the sovereign of Southern Manchuria, and the Czar of all the Russias the sovereign of Northern Manchuria. To the extent that they desire to exercise authority in Manchuria they do exercise it. And in both cases they exercise it in violation of treaties to which this country and many other countries are parties. What are we going to do about it?"

Captain Emil Francke, who was master of the unfortunate Great Northern liner *Dakota* when she was lost off the Japanese coast, March, 4, 1907, has been appointed superintendent for the Northern district of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company.

Thursday last was a red-letter day in the annals of the Chinese Company of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps. For the first time in its short history it received Imperial recognition in the form of a banner from H.H. the Prince Regent, who had commissioned Prince Tsai Hsun to make the presentation on his behalf.

The Kiangnan Arsenal Dock Co., says the *Shanghai Mercury*, is at present a very busy place. They have on the stocks four tow boats that are being built for the Peiho Conservancy Board, the fifth of five monster caissons for bridge work on the Tientsin-Pukow Railway has just been completed, and it is understood that work will soon be commenced on a small cruiser for the Chinese Government, as well as a yacht for the use of the Admiral. In addition the C. M. steamer *Meefoo* is getting a new rudder, while several coasting vessels are being overhauled.

It seems that the Chinese Government is confidently reckoning upon the return of Sir Robert Hart to China. A Chinese newspaper published in Peking states that in discussing the national finance question certain Ministers are reported to have said that upon the return of Sir Robert Hart a joint meeting consisting of representatives of the Waiwupu, the Board of Revenue and Sir Robert Hart will be held. After this due representations will be made to the Ministers of the various countries regarding the control by the Board of Revenue of the receipts of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

Mr. James W. Beardsley, formerly director of public works in the Philippine Islands, who was succeeded by Mr. James F. Case, and later appointed consulting irrigation engineer to the bureau, has resigned, his resignation having taken effect on the 11th. Mr. Beardsley had just completed an important mission—that of studying the irrigation systems of Java, India and Egypt, and reporting thereon to the insular government. He also represented the insular government in an irrigation congress held at Spokane, Washington. Acting Governor Forbes received a cable announcing this resignation and expressed his regret at the loss of such an able man as Mr. Beardsley. He characterized the reports he had made as “extremely able and valuable” ones.

M. A. Tobin, formerly chief clerk in charge of the municipal water office at Singapore, was sentenced last week to three years’ rigorous imprisonment on each count of the indictment, the sentences to run concurrently. The charges had reference to three sums of \$30, \$60 and \$15. Accused’s Counsel in pleading for as light a sentence as possible mentioned that Tobin was the son of a general in the British Army, was educated at Dublin University and for a short time himself held a commission in the Army. He was foolish enough to get married on a small salary, had one child, and his wife was in a delicate condition. He had previously got into trouble through contracting debts with chetties. The prisoner received his sentence stoically, but Mrs. Tobin fainted and had to be borne from the room by two European sergeants.

Eighteen foreign ships, representing 29,196 net tons, entering Cebu during August made that month one of the busiest in the history of that port. The total receipts for the month were P18,214.26. On account of the new export regulations which were put in force last month a loss of P58,140.04 was suffered on hemp alone. Under the old regulations the receipts would have been P240,284.30 instead of what they were. For a while, says a Manila contemporary, on account of the new tariff law which required goods to be brought to the Philippines in one bottom to be entered free, the outlook was rather gloomy for Cebu. Now, however, merchants are beginning to be more hopeful, as the Blue Funnel Steamship Company has announced that their steamers from Tacoma will make Cebu a regular port of call. This will give Cebu a steamer from the United States every twenty-eight days. It is also hoped by the merchants that these arrangements may be made with New York steamers in the future.

THE LIQUOR TAX IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, September 18th.)

Not the least interesting feature of Thursday’s debate in the Legislative Council on the Bill imposing an import duty on alcoholic liquors consumed in the Colony was the explanation given by H. E. THE GOVERNOR of the need for such a large sum of money as this tax is calculated to yield. We drew attention a week ago to a statement made in Council by the Hon. Mr. HEWETT, that the proposed import duties on alcoholic liquors would probably yield to the Colonial Treasury a sum approximating a million dollars net. We recalled the fact that the Government’s original proposal—to obtain revenue by largely increasing the fees for licences to sell alcoholic liquors—was estimated to produce not more than two and a half lakhs of dollars, and we asked what need existed for raising under the alternative scheme such a very much larger amount. The thought that then occurred to us—though we left it unrecorded—was that the Government had come to regard the prospect of obtaining from the Imperial Parliament a “substantial contribution” towards the loss of opium revenue as extremely doubtful, and that it would be well, therefore, to make sure of having in hand the sum necessary to cover the estimated expenditure. But the explanation of the financial position given by HIS EXCELLENCY yesterday shows that the conjecture was erroneous, and that the Government still has a lively faith that Parliament will do the bidding of the Government in the matter and give the Colony a contribution amounting to two and a half lakhs, being but half the amount of the total estimated loss which the Colonial revenue will suffer by the restriction of the traffic in opium. This, then, would leave the Colony to make good the other two and a half lakhs. In addition to this the Government are anticipating a deficit equal to the amount shown in last year’s Budget, which was almost met by taking the Civil Servants’ Widows and Orphans Fund, as a loan. Adding interest due on this sum, a total liability of \$421,000 has been incurred. Add further the \$72,170 which was still needed to balance last year’s Budget, and we thus get a total of nearly five lakhs as the deficit to be made good in the next Budget, plus the two and a half lakhs’ loss on opium—together seven and a half lakhs. The import tax on liquors will meet the deficit if the Imperial Parliament acts up to expectations in the little matter of the “substantial contribution.” Should there be any failure in this respect, or should the revenue, as is quite possible, not come up to the Government’s expectations, then still further revenue will be needed. The outlook as regards taxation is still distinctly ominous, and the Budget statements for the next few years will be awaited with greater interest and more apprehension than has of late years been the case. Our only hope of a more satisfactory balance sheet rests upon the savings in expenditure which have followed the investigations of the Retrenchment Committee, and we imagine the total cannot be prodigious.

Looking further ahead, to the year 1911, THE GOVERNOR reminds us that the full interest on capital account of the railway will have to be met—interest on one million sterling—and the railway sinking fund also comes into operation that year. HIS EXCELLENCY added to this the hint that we may have to make up a deficiency in the

amount required for running expenses—“as very few railways built have paid their working expenses in the first year.” In short, THE GOVERNOR’S estimate is that the Colony will have to provide about six lakhs of dollars on railway account alone in 1911. May there not also be some additional loss of revenue from opium as the years pass? True, the advertisements call for tenders for the opium farm for three years, but as the import of opium decreases every year, it may be presumed, in the absence of any definite information to the contrary, that the Government’s revenue from the opium farm will be an annually decreasing amount. On the other hand, large annual expenditures to which the Government is now committed—as, for instance, on the new Law Courts and the new Post Office—will have come to an end in a couple of years—if we may dare prophesy at all on such a question—and the decreasing income from opium may not therefore be so severely felt, especially if the Imperial Government lives up to the standard of contributing half the loss for a few years. That, however, is a vain hope, we fancy. They may do it for one, but it is highly improbable that they will give us an annual donation. We conclude, therefore, that it will be obvious to anyone who looks a little ahead in these matters that the additional revenue raised by the import tax on liquors—even if it amounts to one million dollars net a year—will not suffice to balance the colonial budgets of 1911 onwards unless the trade of the Colony improves and develops to a much greater extent than we can at present see any grounds for anticipating.

(Daily Press, September 20th.)

The leading topic of conversation in the Colony is naturally the operation of the Liquor Tax Law which was brought into force within an hour after it had passed through the Legislative Council last Friday. This was a complete surprise to “the trade” and the community in general, for, in the first place, the notion is a common one that a law does not come into operation without previous notification in the “Government Gazette,” and secondly the public had had no idea that the Government, while the Bill was before the Council, had been making their arrangements for the operation of the measure as soon as it became law. Previous publication in the “Gazette” is not, we believe, a legal requirement. We presume the practice in England in this connection is applicable in the Crown Colonies. When the commencement of an Act of Parliament is not specifically enacted, the Bill becomes law when the day, month, and year on which it is passed and received the royal assent is endorsed on the Bill immediately below the title. This endorsement becomes part of the Act and is the date of its commencement when no other commencement is provided in the Act itself. Very few Acts of Parliament, of course, come into operation in this manner; they generally specifically state on what date they will come into force, as is the case, for instance, in the amended Stamp Ordinance, which was recently passed, but the Government cannot be expected—would not in fact be justified in the public interest—in delaying the operation of such a measure as this liquor tax a day after it has passed through the Legislative Council. It does not seem to us that “the trade” or the general public can have any legitimate grievance against the Government on that account, and though it may be that the community is surprised by the suddenness with which the new Ordinance is brought into

operation, we think they will upon reflection agree that the Government would have deserved the strongest censure had it failed to do this, and so allowed large imports of wines and spirits to come in free of duty to be sold to consumers at the higher prices which merchants have already announced. No doubt the operation of the Ordinance at the outset will be attended with many serious difficulties, a few of which are indicated in the letter from Mr. CHARLES GARNER which we publish to-day. It is evident that the Ordinance could have been greatly improved had the Government been able to allow further time for the consideration of such a measure; but we must all recognise that when once the principle of an import tax was approved by the Council it would have been manifestly detrimental to the interest of the taxpayers as a whole to prolong the discussion over the details. It is to be gathered from the reports of the proceedings in Council that the Government do not regard the details of the measure as unalterable, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, and we think the public may rely, with confidence on the Government to make, when good cause is shown, whatever alteration is advisable to rectify injustice and to more efficiently protect the revenue if that be possible.

THE POLAR DISCOVERY.

(Daily Press, September 21.)

It is by no means an unprecedented thing that after a search, sometimes extending over centuries, two men should at the same moment, and without previous intercommunication, have made the discovery. The best known instance of such a coincidence, and that which excited at the moment the most interest, was the simultaneous discovery—or rather the place where the discovery was to be made—of the planet Neptune. Two men, one the well-known French astronomer LEVERRIER, the other a young and hitherto unknown English mathematician of the name of ADAMS, had at the same time, and all unknown to one another, attacked the hitherto untried problem of discovering from the perturbations, not otherwise accounted for, of the planet Uranus, the place of the suspected perturbator. LEVERRIER, with the confidence born of his already well-known position as an astronomer, when he had completed to his own satisfaction his calculations, made them known to the world, and the unknown planet was at once marked down close to the region calculated. ADAMS, as yet unknown in the scientific world, placed his calculations in the hands of AIRY, the Astronomer Royal, and AIRY after a little delay placed them in the care of CHALLIS, of Cambridge. CHALLIS was cautious; and determined for extra security to map out the entire region which he intended to search. He had actually on two occasions noted the planet on his map, but till he had actually made himself sure of its motion did not care to publish it. The observer to whom LEVERRIER had communicated his calculations, finding close to the spot indicated a star hitherto unnoticed, at once gave it to the world; so though ADAMS was actually some months ahead, LEVERRIER's calculations were the first to be verified and published. Another equally curious instance of two men being engaged at the same moment in important researches of wide, world interest occurred in the case of DARWIN and WALLACE, who, perfectly unknown to one another, had evolved a theory of modification of descent under the influence of natural selection. The publica-

tion of these notices, supported as they were by two of the most prominent naturalists of the day, has left its impress on the course of human thought ever since. It was, then, nothing out of the course of human experience that two men, without previous communication, should find themselves at the same time in the quest for what for some two centuries has been the goal of every arctic explorer—the search for the North Pole. By a curious coincidence, although it is scarcely ten years since the exploration of the Antarctic continent can be said to have begun in earnest, Lieutenant SHACKLETON very nearly succeeded in snatching for the south the blue ribbon of the polar explorer. It was only then fit that redoubled efforts should be made by the Arctic explorers this year to prevent it going to their junior competitors in the south. Meteorologically the conditions seem this year to have been all in favour of the North. In China, as elsewhere in both Europe and America, the spring of the year was abnormal. In middle China, after a long period of drought, at a period when rain usually is predominant heavy rains set in in June, and continued well into July. The Monsoon was unusually late in arriving, and when it did come it never became properly established, the summer being marked all through by variable winds. As often happens in such circumstances, these variable winds were accompanied by excessive heat. In America likewise the early summer was marked by excessive heat, while in Europe the spring generally was marked by cold raw weather, and it was not till July that any real summer was experienced. These phenomena not unusually accompany a failure, more or less complete, of the Monsoon in India and eastern Asia, and are due to an imperfect circulation of the air, probably arising from a deficient supply of heat from the sun. The same causes seem to have been effective in bringing about a state of calm in polar regions. A period of deficient Monsoon is naturally correlated with circumpolar calms, and this seems to have been more especially the case this spring. As yet we only have meagre information from particularly unsatisfactory telegrams as to what actually happened, but both explorers were able to make unusually long journeys; Dr. COOK, whose narrative arrived first, claims to have averaged sixteen miles a day, and added that he found the ice around the Pole almost undisturbed, which accounted for the long distances he was able to cover. This statement it was that at first cast discredit on the entire narrative. Curiously, though Commander PEARY afterwards telegraphed his disbelief in Dr. COOK's veracity, he has the same tale to tell of long distances covered; he, better equipped, doubtless, having been able to cover thirty miles a day. These are distances unprecedented in Arctic exploration, and the fact that the two narratives mutually confirm one another has gone far to remove the stigma of want of truth. Little, however, as we learn from Dr. COOK's telegrams, as distilled for us through REUTER, we learn still less from the other. COOK seems to claim to have discovered somewhat extensive land somewhere about 87 degrees north, and incidentally REUTER mentions his having on his return stopped in a cave till daylight returned, which is not easy to interpret. The Pole, according to him, is in mid-ocean; PEARY, so far as REUTER favours us, does not mention its being on land or sea, but talks of his having nailed the Stars and Stripes to it in token of its being United States territory, a proceeding not easy to reconcile with its being actually at sea. Lieut. SHACKLETON, it is

true, did hoist the British flag within ninety miles of the South Pole, but then this was on *Terra Firma*, so we seemingly must conclude that REUTER has been dealing in romance on his own account. Still more difficult to explain is the action of President TAFT, in announcing his intention to claim the Pole as United States territory, "should it contain anything valuable." Sea is sea, and land is land; and it is not for the PRESIDENT, nor anyone else, to establish territorial rights over the high seas. Doubtless the rest of the world has by this time been placed in possession of sufficiently trustworthy information to be able to form a reasonably clear opinion as to whether or not both of the claimants for the Polar blue ribbon are properly entitled to rank, and after the centuries of fruitless search, they would be pleased to learn that all those engaged have been men of honour as well as of courage and determination.

LIQUOR LAW MISCONCEPTIONS.

(Daily Press, September 22nd.)

The Unofficial Members of Council as well as the Government have been well abused during the past few days in connection with the passage of the new Liquor Tax, but now that the excitement has cooled off somewhat, the public are beginning to realise that the change which the Law makes in the character of the port will not be so alarming as was at first anticipated—and as indeed there were substantial reasons for anticipating from the measure as it was originally drafted. Material changes were made in the second and third drafts of the Bill, but it is very evident from the nature of the criticisms which have been passed, especially on the action of the Unofficial Members, that the public have failed to grasp the value of the changes made in the Bill. The Unofficial Members were not dragooned, nor were they inveigled by the adroitness and tact of H.E. THE GOVERNOR, into accepting a measure which, when it was first introduced, the Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART said "staggered" him, and it will perhaps be useful if in simple justice to the Unofficial Members and in the interests of a correct appreciation of the measure by the public we enter into an explanation which may be made the plainer if we base it upon an extract from the speech delivered in Council on the 16th inst. by the Hon. Mr. STEWART, who after dwelling on the fact that it went against the grain with him to witness the institution of the smallest Customs service, said:—

When I read the version of this Bill which reached me last Thursday evening—the evening before the first reading took place—I was staggered to find that the Government proposed to arrogate to themselves powers under which a complete Customs service could be established. How extensive those powers were does not seem to have been fully realised in some quarters. Under them Customs stations could have been established at every wharf in the harbour, in every bay in the coastline, and on every road leading into the Colony. Passengers landing from any steamer could have been held up and arrested without warrant if they objected to open luggage at the bidding of any revenue officer, who might be a Chinese talking no English. And not only could such an officer have so held up any passenger landing, he would have been equally formidable, when after landing, the passenger might reasonably have imagined himself safe in the bosom of the Colony. According to Clause 31 in that version of the Bill, "any person landing or being about to land or having recently landed from any ship or entering or having recently entered the Colony by land shall, on demand by any revenue or police officer, permit his baggage to be searched, etc." Having recently landed! This meant

that none of these huge trucks of luggage which are man-hauled up to the doors of our leading hotels in the travelling season would be safe from the danger of being arrested by any Indian constable or Chinese hukong whose suspicions might fasten on the saratoga trunk of some American globe-trotter, probably an elderly total abstainer from a prohibition State. (Laughter.) The phraseology of Clause 32 was similarly open to objection. Clause 34 gave power to any revenue officer to arrest anyone without warrant on suspicion of his having in his possession any dutiable liquors, and 35 gave the right of domiciliary search on the warrant of a single J. P. Altogether these clauses seemed to leave nothing of our former liberties beyond what the Government might be pleased to allow us to enjoy on sufferance. Having agreed, after much painful heart-searching, to the surrender of the port's freedom to the extent of a most carefully measured inch, immediately the Government annexed an ell. And as a humble representative of the public I felt bound to protest.

With what result? We have seen it represented that when it came to suggesting practical amendments to the provisions dealing with these innovations "the noble spirit of virtuous wrath" had spent itself and the hon. member's voice was hushed and still. Now this is a grievous misrepresentation, for a careful comparison of the draft Bill with the Ordinance as it was passed will show that the protest of the hon member was effectual in every instance. There is no provision under the Ordinance as passed by which "Customs stations could have been established at every wharf in the harbour, in every bay on the coast line and on every road leading to the Colony." There really is, indeed, no excuse for such woeful misrepresentation as that to which we have alluded; for the Government had announced various modifications including the deletion of Clause 30 (which gave the Governor-in Council power to stud the Colony with Customs Houses), and moreover the Hon. Mr. STEWART drew attention to this fact in the very speech which has formed the subject of criticism. We hold no brief for Mr. STEWART and we do not regard the matter simply in the light of an injustice to the Unofficial Members, but after what we have said, it will be admitted that the public's representatives on the Council certainly can complain of being so misrepresented as to provoke the ridicule or contempt of the community when they are justly entitled to public gratitude for the valuable services they have rendered. We may well add to this some acknowledgement of the conciliatory spirit in which their representations were met by the Government. We cannot have an import tax, of course, without machinery for its collection as well as for the protection of the revenue from evasions; but we believe that in the new Ordinance the Colony has secured itself—thanks to the labours of the Unofficial Members of the Council—from the terrors of a Customs service as we know it in most countries of the world. We may add that not the least important among the changes introduced into the Ordinance at the solicitation of the Unofficial Members is clause 31 which provides that no search of goods or baggage shall be made unless there is "reasonable cause" to suspect that such goods or baggage contain dutiable liquors or denatured spirits.

The development of postal savings in Japan is remarkable. The system was first established in 1875. At the time the amount of deposits was 15,224 yen. Ten years afterward, i.e., in 1885, the amount of deposits had increased to 9050,000, and in 1896 to 28,960,000 yen. At the end of last year the figures made a sudden leap and showed 104,440,000 yen, the number of the depositors being 8,500,000.

CHANGE AND PROGRESS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, September 23rd.)

It ought to be encouraging to those who look for progress in China that of late years a modification of the old formula with regard to the introduction of reform in the internal administration of the Empire has been adopted by the Peking Authorities. In former days, they followed the very simple plan of assuring the Foreign Representatives and others who pressed any measures of improvement on their consideration that they were but too anxious to follow their suggestions, only it must be done by very careful degrees. *Festina lente* thus became the motto rigidly followed, and there was generally so much of the *lente* that the promises made were forgotten for the most part by the simple lapse of time. *Festina lente* thus came practically to mean—do nothing at all. Of late years there has been improvement upon this plan. Instead of promising reforms at an indefinite period the principle has been adopted of promising them in as short a time as ten years. This, of course, is a commendable advance on the old basis, by at least defining how slowly they intend to act. Unfortunately, however, even in so short a time as ten years, a good deal may happen that may be an excuse for modifying any promises that may be made, or at least for further postponing their fulfilment, so that it is found that things remain practically as they were under the old rule. Long before the ten years have elapsed, something arises as an excuse and the promises are either toned down on account of these unforeseen circumstances or are allowed quietly to go by default as may happen to be convenient. The prospects of representative institutions being granted to China are a good illustration. That it was declared would definitely be done in ten years; then it was declared that this promise had been withdrawn, and at the present time it is by no means clear whether it is intended to do anything within ten years or any other period. The same may be said with regard to other reforms that have been promised—as to the currency and the like. "Only wait ten years or so and everything will be right," is the constant answer, but unfortunately in the meantime things go on as they are, and unless something arises to force the Government to act, the promised reforms are allowed quietly to drop.

This seems to be very much the attitude which has been adopted at Peking ever since the dismissal of YUAN SHI KAI, and the most sanguine must now feel convinced that the Authorities there are determined to make as little change in the old state of things as they possibly can. If, however, the Chinese Government see fit to stand still, things generally in the Empire are moving and are doing so, even in China, with the rapidity characteristic of the modern times. Changes are taking place in the ideas of the people at large, which cannot be ignored at Headquarters, and there can be little doubt that in one way or another these changes will have to be provided for. The Chinese officials are naturally very slow to recognise this, but it can hardly be supposed that the more enlightened among them are not fully aware of the awakening that is taking place in all directions. What seems to be overlooked by them is the very important fact that by degrees the Chinese people over whom they have to rule is changing in feelings, ideas and even to a large extent in traditions. Reliance is naturally placed by the officials in their knowledge of their own people, in the

success with which they have contrived to keep them together and to govern them in past years. They naturally concluded that if they could manage to govern the people in the past, they can continue to do so, and will be able to get over difficulties which are not more serious than many they surmounted in former times. It is forgotten that both the country and the people who have to be governed differ from the traditional China and the traditional Chinese, with which the old-fashioned reactionary officials are familiar—and that what may have sufficed in the past to keep things together in some kind of way may be quite inadequate under the changed circumstances.

It can hardly be believed that even the most reactionary of Chinese officials are unaware of the changes which are apparent to all who have given any attention to what has been going on in China of late years. That something must be done to bring an antiquated form of government into conformity with the new state of things must be recognised by many of the officials, who unfortunately have not the courage to state what are their true opinions. It may be hoped, however, that the facts will, at last, be recognised, and that by degrees the opinions of the more advanced statesmen will be acted upon, at all events sufficiently to prevent any serious consequences from continued delay. The mistake that has been made has been to promise before being fully prepared to carry out the promises. Nothing is more calculated to engender discontent. Even the old plan of indefinitely postponing considerations of reforms was safer than such a course. This mistake the Peking Government have apparently discovered, but what their course should be is apparent—that is, they should abstain from misleading promises—but, as it must be admitted they have done, in some instances, introduce such reforms in specific directions as are manifestly required, taking care that each individual reform is in the direction of altering the mode of administration as a whole, when the time comes for such a change.

BRITISH IMPERIALISM.

(Daily Press, September 25th.)

Nothing more clearly marks the progress which has been made in "thinking Imperially" throughout the British Empire within the last few years than the decisions of the Conference on Imperial Defence which has been held in London this year, representing as they do the fructification of ideas which have been germinating in all parts of the Empire ever since the South African war. But not on military lines alone has the idea progressed. A great advance has likewise been shown in other directions, notably in those with which the names of Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN and the late Mr. CECIL RHODES will forever be associated. Even if Mr. CHAMBERLAIN had done nothing more than to utter the trumpet call to "think Imperially" the service rendered by this far-seeing statesman to the idea of imperial unity would have been immense, for the call has been re-echoed by the people in all parts of His MAJESTY'S dominions and has directed attention to policies and problems of far-reaching importance, the continued neglect of which might have been fraught with consequences unpleasant to contemplate. But we are led to refer to this subject not by a consideration of what Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has done to encourage and promote thinking on imperial lines, but by a paragraph in a Home

paper which indirectly recalls the other Empire builder we have mentioned. It was said of the late Mr. CECIL RHODES that he was a man whose mind moved on larger constructive lines for the good of his fellow-men and country than any other Englishman. Whatever mistakes he may have committed—and the adage comes to mind that the man who never makes mistakes never makes anything—his ruling idea was to devote his life to strengthening the British Empire and to making it a more potent instrument for raising civilisation and ennobling the life of the world. He gave expression to this aspiration when he was quite a young man, and this faith animated every act of his life, finding final expression in the will which stirred the imagination of the civilised world after his death. The provision he made for two hundred scholarships for students from the British Colonies and the United States, and it is claimed for these scholarships that they are already acting as a mighty binding force not only of the British Empire but of the whole Anglo-Saxon race. The idea is having an interesting development; in a scheme which Mr. P. A. VAILE, himself a Colonial, has been advocating in the Press for the past three or four years. This scheme is practically the converse of the late Mr. CECIL RHODES' scheme. His proposals, in brief, embrace a scheme of scholarships to be conferred not necessarily on university under-graduates or graduates, not necessarily by the usually academic competitive examinations, but on men chosen for their usefulness as missionaries of Empire, "on men who have eyes to see, tongues to speak and pens to write." These men are to go for a year or more to some selected country or Dominion, to spread a knowledge of England and England's ways, and they are to bring back a real knowledge of the land to which they are accredited as ambassadors of knowledge. Their experience and their capacity to pass on its fruits is "to leaven the lump of abysmal ignorance of one another which separates—say—the Englishman from the New Zealander." The scheme appears to have about it something of calculable Imperial value. Mr. VAILE has already enlisted the approbation of Lord MILNER and other distinguished statesmen; he has found the money for the first scholarship, and in London recently so far imbued Sir JOSEPH WARD with his own enthusiasm that the Prime Minister of New Zealand promised to take up the question warmly and practically on his return home. What Mr. VAILE suggests is that all the Overseas States combine with the Home Government to put the scheme on a permanent basis by each contributing the sum of £25,000 to capitalise the experiment. In view of the sympathy and support already enlisted for the scheme, the money will in course of time doubtless be raised, for the scheme, as one of its sympathisers remarks, is "apt to these days of Imperial gestation," and money might certainly be more unprofitably spent by Colonial Governments and wealthy Empire-builders than in giving a chance to such a scheme as this to prove its value in promoting the unity of the Empire.

A new weekly paper has appeared in Shanghai. *The Torch* is its title, and its purpose is to serve as "a weekly beacon for Far Eastern finance, commerce, insurance, shipping, law, etc., etc." Its articles on Chinese affairs are thoughtful and well written, and we imagine the new publication will appeal to the Shanghai public especially on account of its refreshing criticism of the municipal affairs of the Settlement.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

If you haven't a virtue now is the time to assume one. Everybody is going on the water waggon.

At home the people are being budgetted into sobriety. We, of course, could not be more sober than we have been, but all the same we are determined to drink less liquor than we have done, for the simple reason that we can't afford it.

Typhoons may come and go, but for genuine excitement there is nothing to eclipse the establishment of liquor duties and the creation of a Customs establishment, especially when it happens almost as suddenly as a typhoon. We usually have a fair warning of the approach of any disturbance in the atmospherical conditions, but it is questionable if the same can be said of the Customs which has been created before we knew where we were. I had intended to order a few cases of whisky at the old price, but these fellows at the Council didn't give me a look-in. They passed the law right away. Good boys, these unofficial members. They don't embarrass the Government in the slightest. Now, had there been an Irishman in the number he would probably have objected to the third reading being taken on Friday, and so upset the carefully-laid plans of the Government.

Now we've to get accustomed to the sight and to the attentions of the revenue officer. He may not wear a brass hat, as the hon. Mr. Murray Stewart suggests—probably he is confusing him with the fire brigade man—but he may wear a swagger uniform with brass buttons, and as you leave the steamer on returning from Macao full of bitter thoughts and empty of pocket your feelings are not likely to be soothed when somebody stops you and wants to know if you have any dutiable liquor concealed about your person. You probably say that you have, and when he asks for it to be produced you politely inform him that it is beyond his reach, in other words, that it has been consumed. That is the only chance of getting even with these men.

I understand there were one or two amusing incidents which marked the passage of the Liquor Ordinance. On Thursday afternoon when the light was failing a Chinese clerk entered the Legislative Assembly with two lighted candles and solemnly marched up between the long tables to where the Governor was seated and ceremoniously placed them in front of His Excellency. Everybody held their breath. They expected some sort of joss pidgin to be performed, but it transpired that the Chinaman was not inspired by any religious motive, but the utilitarian desire to shed more light. Ahem! It just occurred to me. Was it a joke? Did he mean to insinuate that more light was needed. You know there is much humour concealed about a Chinaman.

His Excellency made an amusing remark when he said that "intoxicating liquor could not be used for military purposes." What about the old strategists who filled the enemy with wine and then went in and took possession?

In the olden days when Britain was in difficulties with her continental neighbours and money was needed to carry on her wars taxes on liquors were imposed. Patriotic Britons then drank themselves out of debt. What are our patriots going to do now? Going on the water waggon when the Colony is in need of money? Shame.

I suppose everybody knows the difference between sparkling wines and still wines—between, say, champagne and claret—but what constitutes the difference is not so generally understood. In the process of fermentation the sparkling wines retain the carbonic acid produced and the still wines let it go. So that when we celebrate with a glass of champagne we may or may not care to remember that the cheerful influence felt is due to carbonic acid gas.

The importance of reaching the North Pole seems to sink into significance in comparison with the dispute as to who got there first. What the rival explorers think of each other has not been printed, but we can imagine what it is. The one fortunate feature of the affair is that both men are Americans. Had they been of different nationality goodness only knows what ententes might have been disturbed.

Next to the wrangling of polar travellers the greatest prominence in the week's telegraphic service has been given to the feats of aviators. Records are being broken every other day, and when we read that the cheapest machine yet built has achieved a wonderful performance, and that a man can learn to fly in four days, we may anticipate a new sensation when we go Home for our next holiday.

Perseverance has been rewarded in the harbour swim, the man who was second two years in succession now having carried off the honour for which he struggled so hard. Congratulations to Mr. Cooke.

Apparently the people at Home had become so despondent as to enjoying any summer this year that when they did have a spell of sunshine they went into ecstasies over it. Here is what the *Mail* says: "The blood-tingling, joyous sunshine came impartially. The London parks became entrancing beauty spots; the seashore was a dream of delight; the countryside had a fascination it had never seemed to possess before. There were, truly, new beauties everywhere. England, under the sun, became a great enchanted garden. The spell of the sun—such splendid, unstinted, reanimating sunshine—flooded the air. It made merry people bubble over with happiness. It changed melancholy folk into hopeful ones. It set the children skipping out of sheer joy."

RODERICK RANDOM.

HONGKONG.

Only one case of communicable disease was reported during last week, namely, enteric fever.

The Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C., Attorney-General, returned to the Colony on Sept. 22 by the German mail from England.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Hongkong trade marks are now accorded protection in Iceland under a Danish Royal Decree dated June 3rd, 1909.

Two Chinese shopkeepers were brought before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy for using unjust scales. One was fined \$30 and the other \$5.

Major-General Broadwood, C.B., commanding H.B.M.'s Troops in South China, returned from his trip Home on Sept. 22. The General went from Japan to Manila in the *Siberia* and crossed over in the *Zafiro*.

H. E. the Governor entertained Rear-Admiral Harber and the Officers of the U. S. Squadron at dinner on Saturday evening at Mount Lodge. The Squadron proceeds to Manila on Monday.

We understand that of the five men captured by the police in the New Territory on suspicion of complicity in the murder of the two Indian police a month ago, three will be placed in the dock on the capital charge. The others, it is expected, will come forward as witnesses.

A man who was arrested on board one of the Canton steamers with a box of clothing in his possession which he had stolen from his master in Hongkong was dealt with at the Magistracy on Sept. 22, when he was committed to prison for three months.

Five men were arrested in the New Territory on Saturday for being concerned in the murder of the two Indian policemen about a month ago. Sergt. Moore of Autau effected the capture. Descriptions have been obtained of three others suspected of having been in the party.

The office staff of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company on Sept. 20 took possession of the new building which has just been erected on the site of the old offices. The new premises are large and commodious and well adapted for office purposes, besides being centrally and conveniently located, and are a striking addition to the architectural features of the city.

Before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy, on Sept. 23 thirteen natives were charged with playing fantan in a house in Chung San Street West. They were found guilty and the three keepers were fined \$25 each, and each of the players \$3.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinance passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 27 of 1909.—An Ordinance to provide for the collection of duties upon Intoxicating Liquors.

A woman was run over by a truck and killed on Monday afternoon and the two men in charge of the truck were arrested. An inquiry is being held as to the cause of the woman's death, and on the result depends the charge to be brought against the men, if any.

His Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 13 of 1909, entitled—An Ordinance to amend The Prison Ordinance, 1899; and to Ordinance No. 14 of 1909, entitled—An Ordinance to amend The Tramways Ordinance, 1883.

The Chief Justice (Sir F. Piggott) has awarded special damages as follows in the action for criminal conversation brought by Captain Mitchell against John Lemm: All costs already paid by Captain Mitchell to be paid by defendant. Leave to move the Court was also granted to include in the judgment all costs which plaintiff is liable to pay.

An Indian came before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Sept. 20 on a charge of stealing a promissory note from a Japanese. The latter, it appeared, had borrowed some money from the Indian and signed three promissory notes. The last one was signed on the condition that the others were returned, but the Japanese alleged that the Indian put all three in his pocket. The amount was \$250.

At the annual meeting of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society held on the 23rd inst., Mr. J. R. M. Smith was elected president, Mr. Murray Stewart was elected vice-president, Mr. David Wood, secretary, and Mr. G. Mackay Dalgety, treasurer. Messrs. Armstrong, Bonnar, Forbes, Macdonald and Ormiston were appointed members of committee. It was decided to celebrate St. Andrew's day with the usual ball on 30th November next.

At the Magistracy on Sept. 23 before Mr. F. A. Hazeland a young Chinese maidservant was charged with stealing a quantity of clothing and two gold rings from her mistress. She denied the charge, and informed the Court that her mistress struck her, in consequence of which she departed with her own clothing. A pawnbroker testified to the girl pawning the stolen property at his shop, and his Worship sentenced her to one month's imprisonment.

As the result of a quarrel in a Queen's Road restaurant last week one man was stabbed and five of his assailants were arrested on a charge of assault. They were remanded on bail, but on Saturday they were all conveyed to the Government Civil Hospital, where the victim's dying depositions were taken. The five men appeared before the Magistrate on Sept. 20 on a charge of murder. Mr. Leo d'Almada a Castro appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the defence. The case was remanded.

Lieut. H. G. H. Grant Smith, 104th Wellesley's Rifles, Indian Army (son of Mr. J. Grant Smith, of Hongkong) has been promoted to the rank of Captain, to date from June 13th. The record of Captain Grant Smith's services is as follows:—Was with the Naval Brigade during the investment of Tientsin Settlement by the Boxers in 1900, and at the taking of Tientsin City. Was with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers from the time they arrived in Tientsin till their return to Hongkong in 1900 (Peking Medal). Was with his regiment (2nd East Yorkshire) in South Africa 1901-2, afterwards serving in the Mounted Infantry Company of this regiment (South African Medal with three clasps). Transferred to the Indian Army. Received the special thanks of the Commander-in-Chief (Lord Kitchener) for good work done while in command of a column of his regiment sent to the native State of Las Bela, Beluchistan, during the late troubles there.

The Japanese Department of Foreign Affairs will next year promote the Japanese Consulate in Hongkong to the rank of Consulate-General in view of the fact that Hongkong is an important point for trade between Japan and China and for diplomatic relations with China.

Cats in cages were seen at the Magistracy on Sept. 24. This did not indicate a preliminary to the promised cat show, but an attempt by the police to stop a certain enterprise. A man was arrested for hawking cats and was brought before Mr. Hazeland. He told the Magistrate that the animals were intended for the Sanitary Department and his Worship dismissed the defendant.

The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha were summoned at the Magistracy on Sept. 24 by Inspector Gourlay for having in their possession four scales which were unjust. The Inspector went on board the steamer *Fukku Maru* on the 20th inst., and of the seven scales used in the weighing he found that four of them were unjust, being two per cent. in all against the purchaser. His Worship (Mr. Hazeland) imposed the maximum penalty of \$800.

On Sept. 24 before Mr. Wood the trial was continued of the case in which four Chinese were accused of receiving 1,085 lbs. of sharks' fins. Two of the prisoners have been discharged and the case has already occupied eight days. Mr. W. E. L. Shenton represented the prosecutor, Mr. Talati. The defendant, Ko Fun, was represented by Mr. Davidson, and the defendant Lai Lok by Mr. Sydenham Dixon. The cases for the defence having been closed, Mr. Wood adjourned the case till to-day.

A lukong was assaulted in the early hours of Friday morning by four thieves and so badly maltreated that he had to be sent to hospital. It appeared that he watched the four men as they stole sandalwood from a godown in Wanchi Road and when one came towards him with a bag of wood he attempted to arrest him. The thief resisted and when the lukong blew his whistle for assistance the three others rushed down and beat him severely, injuring his head. Four men were arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the affair.

Chinese women are just as keen on gambling as the men, but their opportunities are fewer. Of late there have been several instances in Hongkong of "schools" of women gamblers having been arrested by the police, and one lot, numbering eleven, with headquarters at 4 Cheong Wo lane, were taken into custody on Tuesday and brought before the Magistrate on Sept. 22. His Worship discharged three fined one \$40, another \$10, and the remainder \$3 each. A feature of the arrest was the amount of "gaming" articles seized. Not only were there several boxes of dominoes and cards, but the two tables, the half dozen stools, the matting, etc., were taken by the police. Even the clock was removed, it being a "gaming" article, as it told them how long they could continue at their pastime before their husbands were expected home.

An interesting wedding was celebrated at the Union Church on Saturday morning, the contracting parties being Mr. J. W. Stewart (of the China Sugar Refinery), fourth son of the Rev. James Stewart, D. D., V. D., Peterhead, Scotland, and Miss Effie Graham, second daughter of the late Mr. Alexander Graham, solicitor, Crieff, and Mrs. Graham, Atholton, Crieff. The bride, who arrived from Scotland a few days ago, was given away by Mr. A. Bain, of the China Sugar Refinery. Her bridesmaid was Miss Wilks, while Mr. John McCorquodale, also of the Refinery, supported the bridegroom as best man. The Rev. T. W. Pearce, of the London Mission, conducted the ceremony, which was attended by a number of friends. Afterwards a reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. Bain, where many guests partook of the hospitality extended and drank to the health and prosperity of the newly-wedded couple, who subsequently left for Macao, where the honeymoon is being spent.

The wireless installation in connection with the Imperial Chinese Telegraphs is to use a normal wave length of 600 metres, and it is expected that it will under ordinary circumstances be able to communicate within a radius of 175 miles.

THE TYPHOON AT FOOCHOW.

A disastrous typhoon occasioning tremendous loss of life and considerable damage to property visited the neighbourhood of Foochow last Wednesday. It is estimated that 1,000 persons at least met their deaths either by drowning or through being crushed in the collapse of houses, and probably this number will be found to be an under-estimate.

The typhoon struck the city about 2-30 on Wednesday and continued with unabated severity until seven o'clock, when it began to moderate. The darkness of night invested the storm with even greater terror than would have been the case had it taken place in daylight, but by dawn it was seen that the dread visitor had wrought unusual havoc.

The small craft, as was to be expected, suffered the most. About eighty per cent. of the lighters of the port were destroyed, while a large number of sampans were smashed up against the rocky coast. The stone jetty at the Custom House was partly washed away, and the large vessels at the Pagoda Anchorage had a trying time. The Douglas steamer *Haiyang* drifted from her moorings, but fortunately her second anchor held. The force of the wind can be imagined from the experience of one of the officers, who, when he went on deck at the height of the storm had his oilskins blown into ribbons. Two Japanese steamers rode safely through, as did the China Merchants' steamer *Haiain*, but the Chinese cruiser *Haichi*, the flagship of the Admiral, dragged her anchors and struck the rock above the Custom House, twisting her rudder post. She then got into difficulties, but was beached on a mud bank. Twenty-one of her crew are believed to have jumped overboard when she grounded and were drowned. Another cruiser flying the yellow dragon entered the anchorage. This was the *Haisum*, which had an adventurous time on the voyage from Hongkong. She could not keep up steam, her fires being extinguished, but the fact that she made the anchorage indicates that she must have been well handled.

The damage to property was very extensive. Houses were unroofed, windows were blown in, and doors torn from their hinges; while large ornamental trees were uprooted. The full extent of the destruction wrought by the typhoon has not been ascertained yet, but it is not improbable that even greater damage has been done. The cables and telegraph services have all been broken down and Foochow is cut off from communication both with north and south.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 18th inst. gives the following account of the typhoon which struck Foochow on the 15th:

In the early hours of Wednesday, the 15th inst., Foochow was visited by a typhoon of unusual severity, and although it raged for not more than six hours it easily ranks as the most violent of any typhoon which has visited this port for the past twenty years. On retiring to rest on Tuesday night very few of the community had any idea that before morning they would be roused to do battle for their houses and homes and, in fact, the Chinese floating population, usually so correct in their judgement as to the near approach of a typhoon, ridiculed the idea of any such thing impending. The evening of Tuesday was calm with bright starlight, and certainly gave no indications of being the forerunner of a storm of such great severity. Therefore, it is not to be wondered at that when the wind commenced at about three a.m. practically no-one was prepared and the toll taken from the river folk was exceptionally heavy. The wind increased in violence rapidly, reaching its full force at about 6-30 a.m. when the barometer in the Club registered 29.10, and there is no doubt that had it continued at its full strength for any considerable length of time few houses would have been left in Foochow. As it was, practically no house escaped unscathed, all being more or less seriously damaged and presenting all the evidences of the fury of the wind. Several houses were uprooted, others lost shutters and walls, while in the case of Jardine's house the chimney fell through the roof and on to the bed of the Manager, who, luckily enough, had just left that particular spot. At the Chinese Girls'

School a chimney fell through, the debris falling immediately in front of a girl who was standing in the door frame in the room below.

UNEXAMPLED DEVASTATION.

The scene on the Hill was one of unexampled devastation and ruin. Trees of some 200 years old have been uprooted and damage to the shade trees has been done to an extent such as will take many years to remedy, while the telephone services—Native and Foreign—have been wiped out. The banks of the river for miles were littered by the wrecks of the various craft, while large ocean-going junks were huddled together in every conceivable style of confusion. Many junks were ashore on the end of Chun Chow Island, the houses at that point having been smashed by the undesirable visitors. Houseboats without masts, sampans and boats bottom up, cargo boats with decks awash were to be seen at all points, while the houses all along the banks of the river were hanging in all conceivable shapes, just as though they had been struck by dynamite. The pontoon and jetty on the Ewo Bund have disappeared, two deep water steamers were lying alongside Messrs. Siemssen & Krohn's Jetty, and kerosine (from the many boats which had sunk with cargoes from the various depots on the other side of the river) was floating in oily masses on the surface of the water. As for the oil installations, the match factory and sawmills on the North side, all these caught the full force of the blow, and the damage done to buildings there has been enormous. They look more as though they have gone through a bombardment than of having met the force of a gale of some six hours' duration.

AT PAGODA ANCHORAGE.

Up to the time of writing we have not received full advices as to the damage done at Pagoda Anchorage, although we understand that the Customs House there has suffered severely and all the gigs have been lost with the exception of one. It is quite impossible for us to state with any degree of accuracy what the death roll amounts to, but we are thankful to say that we have not to record any fatal results among the Foreign Community, although many narrow escapes took place.

DAMAGE AT KULIANG.

At Kuliang, the hill resort, enormous damage has been done to the many houses dotted round the hills, and had the typhoon occurred a few weeks earlier we are certain that we should have had to record the death of some of the occupants. Luckily enough, practically all the missionaries, who occupy the great majority of the houses during July-August, had already left, but the ladies still remaining at Kuliang suffered a night of horror and anxiety. The house occupied by Dr. Churchill and family was entirely swept away, and it was only after they had spent some hour and a half sheltering under a boulder that they were able to reach a neighbouring house there to obtain covering other than the night clothes in which they had escaped from the ruins of their house. Possibly, as fuller details come to hand, further dreadful experiences by other sojourners on the hilltop will reach us. In passing, we cannot help remarking that every now and again similar experiences are met with at Kuliang, and we are apt to wonder how long people will be content to endanger their lives and limbs by occupying houses so unsuited to the weather conditions which are to be met with in such an exposed position as Kuliang. Only the best and finest buildings should be erected there, and yet, with a few noteworthy exceptions, the class of house found there is quite unsuited to the strains it is called upon to bear.

BUILDERS IN GREAT REQUEST.

Builders are in great request by everyone, and they will certainly reap a rich harvest during the forthcoming weeks. The crops of olives and oranges in the districts surrounding the port have been practically ruined, and this will go to materially swell the monetary loss occasioned by the typhoon which in other directions cannot fall short of twenty lakhs of dollars.

On Thursday, finding that there was but small hope of the speedy re-erection of the land lines between here and Sharp Peak, the Telegraph Co. forwarded several messages to the cable station by launch, hoping that these messages could be despatched thence. Merchants were greatly disappointed to find when

the launch returned here on Friday morning that no communication could be made with the outside world, as the cables from Sharp Peak were interrupted and had been ever since the typhoon. They were also informed that it would be several days before they might expect the service to be resumed. The Telegraph Co. are now arranging to forward their messages by steamer to Amoy and Shanghai respectively, but, naturally, such makeshifts cannot be other than unsatisfactory to the Tea merchants, who are, or rather were before the cables parted, busily engaged in obtaining orders for the Oolong crop, the market for which has just opened. The best thing the port could have done would have been to have called a Chamber of Commerce meeting, declared the Hongs closed till the cables were again in working order and everybody here gone to sleep till it was possible to do something in tea. There is only one style of business possible at present, and that is, any trade connected with bricks and mortar.

DAMAGE DONE TO CARGO BOATS.

We have ascertained that the loss to the fleet of cargo boats amounts to over fifty boats, the available number to-day being about forty only.

THE IRREPRESSIBLE JOKER.

From "Windy Notes" in our Foochow contemporary we make the following selections:—Many of the Foochow community have tiles loose this week.

* * *

Powerful is money but not powerful enough to buy a share in a builder's business in Foochow nowadays.

* * *

Adversity acquaints us with strange bed-fellows, but what price Alfred's latest—to wit, one chimney?

* * *

MacDougal called his house coolie loudly during the early hours of Wednesday and was surprised that the menial did not reply or appear. Why should Mac expect that a typhoon should so change the "Olo Custom" of his house?

GRUESOME SIGHTS AT SEA.

The steamer *Kweiyang* arrived in port on Sept. 21st from Chefoo two days overdue. Although not encountering a typhoon she was sufficiently near to experience particularly rough weather, especially on Saturday, when her barometrical readings indicated that the typhoon was south of her and naturally she did not care to rush into it. This was the typhoon which entered the land somewhere about Swatow. Prior to that, however, those on board had evidences that a disastrous visitation had passed over the sea some little time before. Almost all the way down from the entrance to the Haitan Straits dead bodies floating past caught the eye practically every minute. Some were lashed to spars, some to yulofs, and one sampan had thirty dead bodies on board. It was a gruesome experience. Dead Chinese, with their faces pecked beyond recognition, met the view of those on board, and it is a modest calculation to put the number of bodies which drifted past at over 1,000. As the seas were running high, and the range of vision was not great, it can be understood there were doubtless many more which were not seen from this steamer.

On Saturday afternoon the *Kweiyang* passed the *Clio* and the *Anhui*, to which they spoke, but did not proceed far before anchoring. The *Clio* was all right, and was prepared to meet the storm, as also the *Anhui*. The lowest barometrical reading was 29.37 on Saturday afternoon.

REPORTED WRECK OF A SMALL STEAMER.

It was reported at Foochow last week that the Japanese steamer *Taiwanfu*, had been wrecked in the typhoon on the White Dogs with the loss of over 100 passengers and crew. We understand that the *Taiwanfu*, is a small steamer trading between Anping in Formosa and northern Chinese ports. No confirmation of this report has reached Hongkong, and we trust it may have no foundation in fact.

H.M.S. "CLIO" IN TWO TYPHOONS.

Great anxiety prevailed in naval and official circles in Hongkong early last week as to the fate of one of the vessels belonging to the British Squadron in the East. It was feared that the H. M. S. *Clio*, which was on her way to the port from Shanghai, had encountered the typhoon which entered the Formosa Channel on Wednesday the 22nd inst. with disastrous results.

As the result of the typhoon all cable and telegraphic communication in the neighbourhood of Foochow had been broken, and nothing could be learned either from Shanghai or Hongkong as to what had happened in that vicinity.

H.M.S. *Astraea* had been despatched from Shanghai to search for her.

The *Clio* is a screw sloop of 1070 tons and carries 120 all told, officers and crew. Her commander is Chas. T. Borrett and the other officers are Lieut. Porter, Lieut. Fielding, Surgeon F. J. Gowans, and Sub-Lieut. Henry James. She has been on the station here for a number of years and was well known on the river.

On Tuesday the satisfactory information was passed round that the sloop had been sighted at Station Island anchorage in the Haitan Straits on Saturday afternoon. The news, which was brought to Hongkong by the steamer *Kweiyang* was gladly received in official quarters and throughout the town generally there was a feeling of relief experienced.

H. M. S. *Clio* arrived in port yesterday little the worse for the two typhoons she encountered on her way down from Shanghai. After leaving the anchorage in Haitan Straits, where she sought shelter, the sloop put into Amoy on the 23rd inst.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

His Excellency Senhor Rocadas and family passed through Hongkong on Saturday. His arrangements did not permit him to accept H.E. The Governor's invitation to stay at Mountain Lodge, but he accepted an invitation to an informal lunch at 1 o'clock. Captain Taylor met the party in Hongkong, and escorted them to Mountain Lodge, those present including: Their Excellencies Senhor and Lady Rocadas and Miss Rocadas, Captain Pacheco, ex-Chief of Staff, Macao; General Sir J. Machado, Senhor Cinatti, Captain Norton, Captain Almeida, of the *Vasco da Gama*; Mr. and Mrs. Badeley and the Misses Loureiro. His Excellency and party left in the afternoon by the German mail steamer *Derfflinger*.

MARRIAGE OF MR. HARRY HANCOCK.

Mr. Harry Hancock, son of Mr. Alfred Hancock, late of Hongkong, was married last month at the Brompton Oratory to Miss Ethel Wright, daughter of Mr. William Wright, late of Clifton, Bristol. The Rev. Arthur Talbot officiated. The bride, who was given away by Mr. Sturts, was attended by Miss Truscott, who wore a dress of pink Shantung silk and carried a bouquet of white lilies. Mr. Alfred Smith acted as best man.

Baguio, the summer capital of the Philippine Islands, we learn from our Manila contemporaries, is booming. Among other things it is announced that the Baguio Land Development Co., with a capital of \$200,000 (gold), organized by H. Phelps Whitmarsh, manager of the Benguet Commercial Co., has taken over a large block of land in the business centre of the town owned by the Whitmarsh interests, and intends to erect modern business houses thereon in anticipation of the boom Baguio expects to have next season. The stock has been largely subscribed, mostly by English capital in China. There are 10,000 shares of a par value of \$10 each. Mr. Whitmarsh, who is in China at present, expects to return sometime next month, and the new company will commence active operations at that time.

THE RAILWAY SENSATION.

MR. BUTLER WRIGHT AT CANTON.

Mr. Butler Wright was brought up at the British Consulate at Canton on Sept. 23 in connection with the charges of embezzlement preferred against him. Accused arrived on board the steamer *Anhui*, which was two days overdue, in charge of Detective Welch of Shanghai. He landed about seven o'clock and went to the Victoria Hotel, but did not proceed to the Consulate until some time after ten o'clock. Mr. L. Giles, Vice-Consul, conducted the proceedings in the absence of Mr. Fox, Acting Consul-General. Mr. Frank Grove, engineer-in-chief of the Chinese section of the Kowloon-Canton Railway was in attendance on behalf of the prosecution.

The accused, who was neatly dressed, appeared quite composed. Prior to the proceedings he read letters which were handed to him at the Consulate, and in conversation he seemed quite confident as to the result of the trial.

The proceedings, which were purely formal, were commenced by the Vice Consul reading the charge in the following terms: Frank Grove, engineer-in-chief, Canton-Kowloon Railway, duly sworn, complains that William Butler Wright, chief accountant, Canton-Kowloon Railway, did on September 14th, 1908, and again on December 30th, 1908, transfer without authority from his official account standing in the name of the Chief Accountant of the Canton-Kowloon Railway in the International Banking Corporation at Canton, to his private account in the same bank the sums of \$5,000 and \$13,000 as is shown by the bank statement herewith produced, and the said Frank Grove charges the said William Butler Wright with fraudulently embezzling the said sums of money, the property of his employers. Sworn the third day of September, 1909.

Detective Welch, of the Shanghai Police Force, went into the witness box and said—Last Thursday I received a warrant from the British Consul-General at Shanghai to receive over William Butler Wright from the British gaol at Shanghai and escort him to Canton. We arrived here this morning.

The warrant was produced.

The Vice-Consul (to Mr. Grove)—Do you want to make an application?

Mr. Groves—Yes, I want to make an application for a remand.

The Vice-Consul—Mr. Wright's barrister has written to ask for a remand until Monday, the 27th instant. Will that suit you?

Mr. Groves—Yes.

The Vice-Consul—There will be a remand then until the 27th of this month at ten o'clock and the accused will be allowed bail in two sureties of \$10,000 each. You will have time. The inspector will take you to the hotel where you can write letters or attend to other business. If you cannot get the sureties you will be detained in Hongkong in custody.

Accused—I thank you.

This terminated the proceedings, Mr. Wright being transferred from the custody of Detective Welch to the charge of a petty officer from one of the British gunboats.

THE PROCEEDINGS AT SHANGHAI.

The following report of the proceedings in H. M. Police Court, Shanghai, on the 12th inst. before Mr. G. W. King is extracted from the *N. C. Daily News*:—

William Butler Wright, on remand, was charged on a warrant with having on September 14, 1908, and again on December 30, 1908, at Canton, fraudulently embezzled the sums of \$5,000 and \$13,000, respectively, the property of the Canton-Kowloon Railway Administration (Chinese section).

Mr. S. H. McKean, on the instructions of the Crown Advocate, appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. J. C. F. Douglas appeared for the accused.

Mr. Douglas said that his client was willing to give every facility to the authorities for his return to Canton to go into any matters which might require his attention. He would like to know the amount of sureties to be fixed. His client was quite a stranger in Shanghai, and did not expect to find his sureties here. Therefore, he would like the Court to fix the amount of the sureties required.

His Worship said that the course he proposed to adopt was to return Mr. Wright to Canton in custody.

Mr. Douglas remarked that he supposed that course would be necessary, as his client could not find sureties here.

Accused—No.

Mr. Douglas continued that the Court had the power to fix the amount, subject to the sureties being approved by the Consul. If the Court would do that, it would help accused very much. He would ask the Court to release his client immediately he arrived at Canton.

His Worship replied that Mr. Douglas would see the difficulty that the Court was in. The warrant mentioned two charges. Supposing that subsequently, after investigations, it was discovered that the amount of the alleged embezzlement was higher—

Mr. Douglas asked the Court to fix sureties without relation to the amount of embezzlement. He thought that Mr. Wright would find perfectly satisfactory sureties.

His Worship said that he would prefer that application be made to the Consul.

Mr. Douglas pointed out that Mr. Wright would arrive in custody and would then have to make the application to the Consul there, who might not be familiar with such things. If the Court refused to grant his application, he would have to apply to the Judge, who, perhaps, would be the best person to settle it.

His Worship concurred, and said that he could not settle any question of surety on bail without knowing the facts.

Mr. Douglas said that he did not think that it would hamper the Court for his client to go back to Canton and find his surety there.

His Worship said that he thought the Consul there was just as familiar with such matters as they were in Shanghai.

Mr. Douglas said that Mr. Wright would be ready to go back at the convenience of the Court.

His Worship stated that he would have to consult the Consular authorities regarding that matter.

Mr. McKean then applied for a warrant to be issued.

His Worship replied that he did not think it was necessary for Mr. McKean to apply, as he—his Worship—would do it as a matter of course.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

18th September, 1909.

COMMEMORATION STAMPS.

The Imperial Chinese Post Office have notified that special issues of 2, 3, and 7 cent stamps are now ready, and those who want them in large numbers are requested to apply to the Postmaster in time before the supply arrives.

LORD KITCHENER.

This distinguished soldier will arrive in Canton on 28th inst., and will stay here a day or two.

THE NEW TREASURER.

The arrival of the new treasurer, Chan Kwei Lum, will be delayed owing to the death of one of his sons. He has applied to H. E. the Viceroy to grant a few days' leave.

THE OPIUM HABIT.

H. E. Yuan-shi-fan, the new Viceroy, is very strict in suppressing the opium habit. He asked the Anti-Opium Society to supply him with the list of names of all the officials here, (1) who do not smoke opium, (2) of those who still smoke opium, and (3) of those who cannot break off the habit, that he might deal with them accordingly.

FIRE FESTIVITIES.

This year the Chinese police are very strict interdicting street singsongs (*ta chew*), which are a feature of the Chinese 8th and 9th moons, to propitiate the god of fire.

22nd September, 1909.

IMPERIAL CHINESE TELEGRAPHS.

The French Consul sent a letter to H. E. the Viceroy, calling his attention to a joint complaint sent by the French firms here, about the frequent interruptions in the telegraph lines. A breakdown in the lines is reported every week, and the foreign merchants thereby suffer considerable inconvenience and loss. A similar complaint

in the form of a letter signed by the British firms has also been communicated to Mr. H. H. Fox, the Acting Consul-General, for communication to the Chinese authorities. It is to be hoped the Telegraph Administration will give the matter their prompt attention.

FIRE AT HONAM.

On Sunday midnight there was a fire at Honam. It originated in a fantan shop by the fall of a large foreign lamp such as are usually hung at the doorways of fantan shops. About 30 houses were destroyed by this fire, but happily there was no loss of life. A poor deaf man was most severely burnt about the body.

THE WEATHER.

Yesterday afternoon we had a good fall of rain, and to-day also we had a downpour. This has cooled the atmosphere, and the effect of the rain on the standing crops will be very beneficial.

THE NEW TERRITORY MURDER.

At the Magistracy on the 23rd instant before Mr. J. R. Wood, Li Ng was arraigned on two charges, one of murder and one of cutting and wounding.

Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Deputy Superintendent of Police, prosecuted, and prisoner was undefended.

Dr. Hartley, Medical Officer in charge of the Railway, testified to being present at the post-mortem held on the murdered woman. There was a wound on the right buttock about four inches long and from two-and-a-half to three inches deep. The wound was a mixture of a stab and cut. Witness considered that deceased bled to death.

Li Luk deposed to being a shroff in the Land Office. The murdered woman was his wife, and lived at Sancheung in the New Territory. This was his native village. The accused was his elder brother, and witness knew of no reason why his brother should have killed his wife.

After further evidence the hearing was adjourned.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

POSSIBILITIES OF COMPETITION.

Mr. Stuart J. Fuller, the acting Consul General of the United States in Hongkong, in a report to the State Department on the Kowloon-Canton Railway, adds the following interesting comment:—While construction on the British line was still under way another railway presenting possibilities of competition was opened on January 6, 1909. This road is known as the Sunning Railway, and it was financed, designed, equipped and constructed wholly by Chinese. It is planned to extend from a sea-coast harbour known as Sam Kap Hoi, a point west of Hongkong and Macao, across the Sunning district to a connection with the Canton-Hankow railway's Samshui branch. Efforts were made to have a treaty port established at Sam Kap Hoi, and the question is said to be under consideration by the Peking government. The Imperial Maritime customs made an examination of the harbour and declared that with a little dredging it could easily be utilised for coasting vessels. This line has not yet been entirely completed, but it is said that it will be finished from Sam Kap Hoi to a connection with the Canton-Hankow Railway in about 8 or 10 months. Although this competition has not been very seriously regarded by the Kowloon-Railway people, it would, nevertheless, in capable hands, prove an active competitor of the Kowloon-Canton line. Especially would this be true if in anyway it should come into the control of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, and be used by them as a feeder in competition with British line.

As will be noted from the agreement governing the construction of the Chinese section of the Kowloon-Canton line, care has been taken to insure the British influence and control to which the capitalists at home who have advanced the money are deemed entitled. Special attention is called to the requirement that "at equal rates and qualities goods of British manufacture shall be given preference over other goods of foreign origin."

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 17th inst. in the Council Chamber.

The following were present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

HIS EXCELLENCY COLONEL C. H. DARLING (General Officer Commanding).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir H. S. BERKELEY, K.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. G. M. I. MESSER (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. P. N. H. JONES (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Capt. Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B. C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK, C.M.G.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

THE LIQUORS ORDINANCE.

The Council went into Committee for the further consideration of the Ordinance to provide for the collection of duties upon intoxicating liquors.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed that clause 3, with regard to duty, be re-committed. When the Council sat the previous day they had under consideration an alternative scheme of duties submitted by the unofficial members.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The scale was as follows:

	Per Gallon
Brandy and liqueurs	\$3.00
Whisky	2.40
Gin, Rum, and other Spirituous liquors	1.20
Champagne	2.40
All other sparkling wines	1.80
Port, Sherry, Madeira	1.80
Other still wines in bottles	1.20
Other still wines in wood	0.60
All other intoxicating liquors, excepting	
Spirits of Wine, and native wines and	
spirits	0.24
On all native wines and spirits, other	
than Arrack	0.15
Spirits of Wine and Arrack	3.00

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed that in the scale submitted by the unofficial members the words "On all native wines and spirits other than arrack, 15 cents per gallon" should be deleted and the following substituted:—

- Per gallon.
- (a) on all native wines and spirits containing under 20 per cent. of pure alcohol by weight 15 cents
 - (b) on all native wines and spirits containing over 20 per cent. and under 40 per cent. of pure alcohol by weight. 40 cents
 - (c) on all native wines and spirits containing over 40 per cent. of pure alcohol by weight \$1.20

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL also suggested that they should strike out "whisky in wood" and "whisky in bottle," leaving whisky as it was proposed by the unofficial members.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—You make no difference?

HIS EXCELLENCY—No.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—We accept the amendment of the unofficial members with slight alterations.

Hon. Mr. BADELEY—The wording wants to be altered a little. You say under 20 per cent. and over 20 per cent. What about 20 per cent.?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Make it 20 per cent. and over.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The proposal is to accept the scale exactly as submitted by the unofficial members except perhaps under native wines.

This was agreed to, as also the consequential alteration in the definition.

Part III. was then considered.

On clause 18 HIS EXCELLENCY said it was proposed to reduce the fee for a licensed warehouse to \$250, as the fee of \$500 would fall heavily on the Chinese.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I suppose any two firms can join together and have one warehouse?

HIS EXCELLENCY—A dozen firms can join together if they like.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Under the same licence fee of \$250?

HIS EXCELLENCY—There is nothing against any number of firms joining together.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—But the licence will be granted only to the one firm.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The licensee will be responsible for any goods stored in his warehouse. The licence will be issued to one man only.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—And if he allows his friends to use his godown, the Government does not interfere?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—He can store as much as his warehouse will hold.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—There is nothing in the Ordinance to say that a licensee must be one firm.

HIS EXCELLENCY—But one man will be the responsible licensee. The Government will not object to him allowing other people to put liquor in his godown.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I propose to add to the end of sub-section 2, "but no fee shall be charged for licences granted the naval and military authorities for naval and military purposes."

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—We are giving them a bonded warehouse free of charge.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Yes.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—But the naval and military authorities might allow private stores to be placed in their warehouse.

HIS EXCELLENCY stated that the warehouse was the property of the Admiralty or War Department.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Then it is not intended to store private goods there?

HIS EXCELLENCY—No. I don't think the section is expressed very well. You cannot use intoxicating liquor for naval and military purposes. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Is it necessary to explain in the Bill who the naval and military authorities are?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No.

On clause 19,

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE asked—On the question of samples, will the King's keeper be protected from claims under this Ordinance?

HIS EXCELLENCY—Samples will be taken by the Government Analyst for experimental purposes.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—If the Government Analyst comes along to take samples, and has to open a cask, and afterwards the owner of the cask says the contents are spoiled through that opening?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The keeper would be protected, because he would be doing what the Ordinance required him to do.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—It is invariably done at Home.

Hon. Mr. GRESSON—Does "keeper" mean excise officer?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No. The keeper of a warehouse.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE pointed out that another clause provided for the keeping of warehouse books in English, and asked if the regulation applied to the licensed warehouses of the Chinese?

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I think it should be "in English or Chinese."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The King's warehouse books must be kept in English.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—The King's warehouse books clearly ought to be kept in English.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—They cannot be kept in anything else.

The Committee decided to delete the words "in English" from the clause and to substitute "proper books."

Clause 20 was struck out.

HIS EXCELLENCY remarking—It has rather the flavour of the Custom House about it.

On Part IV.,

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said there were certain medicated wines which were distinctly medicines and not intoxicating liquor. Would it be

necessary to specify that the Governor-in-Council would grant exemptions to them?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied that they were going to give general powers in the regulations to make exemptions.

On Part V.,

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE suggested that in clause 5, providing that every revenue officer, when acting against any person, shall on demand declare his office and produce his badge of office, the words "on demand" be omitted.

Hon. Mr. STEWART said there were complaints as to the manner in which the opium farmer's officers went on board ships and searched people without displaying any badge at all.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied that the revenue officer must show his authority.

Hon. Mr. STEWART thought it would be better if he wore his badge.

It was decided that the clause should stand with the words "on demand" deleted.

On the clause providing for the search of baggage and goods,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed to insert that, after the words "every person landing from any ship or entering the Colony by land," there should be added the words "accompanied by any goods or baggage."

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Does that mean the gentleman with the two bottles of whisky up his sleeve?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL suggested another addition that: "if the person landing is of European race, the man shall be met by a European officer."

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Will the effect of this be that the stranger landing at Pedder's Wharf must go to the Police Station or have his luggage examined on the wharf?

HIS EXCELLENCY—He has the option.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—The policeman can't make him go to the Police Station if he allows the examination to be made on the wharf?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—It does not say with whom the option lies.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—If you take out the word "shall" and insert "may," that will give the option.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Then there is nothing imperative in the sentence. He can refuse everywhere.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—The option may be with the policeman.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No, no.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Have you any amendment?

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Yes. I propose that the words "at his option" be inserted.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—You can't put it there.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The opinion of the Attorney-General is that the section is perfectly clear in the sense desired.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—I am not satisfied it is perfectly clear to the policeman who is going to do it.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I think the police will be given to understand that is the reading.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—As to the landing from the ship, does that mean the examination must be made on landing and not when the passenger has gone a hundred yards from the ship?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—"Landing" means that he must have left the ship.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—You won't catch a man when he is half-way up the bund?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—He is not entitled to a hundred yards' start. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—You might follow a man to the hotel.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I think as it stands it is pretty clear.

Clause agreed to.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the insertion of a new clause, to be numbered 31, which aid restrictions on the searching of baggage and goods generally. The clause read, "Any search of goods or baggage shall be made under the provisions of the two preceding sections, unless there is reasonable cause to suspect or believe that such goods or baggage contain dutiable liquors or denatured spirits."

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE suggested that search should not be made unless there was reasonable cause to believe that smuggling was being practised. He asked if police officers would

pounce down on all baggage if they had information that some individual was bringing a case of whisky into the Colony from Shanghai—one isolated case of whisky.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Certainly, No offence is a little one at that time.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—If you had information that a case of whisky was being brought here from Shanghai, would you examine all the baggage on board?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I should say not.

HIS EXCELLENCY—This section is to somewhat modify the previous one.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—My point is that unless there is reason to suppose smuggling is going on, no search should be made at all.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The meaning of the section is that in no individual case shall luggage be searched unless there is reasonable cause to suppose there are dutiable goods on board.

On Clause 32,

Hon. Mr. STEWART suggested that the excise officers should wear badges.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said that detectives or excise officers usually reported themselves to the captain when they boarded a ship.

Hon. Mr. STEWART said he knew a recent case where such an officer did not.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—If such an officer went on board and did not explain who he was, he might probably be thrown overboard.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT thought it was perfectly reasonable to allow a revenue officer not in uniform to remain on board provided he reported himself to the captain and told him why he was there. He thought the clause as it stood was quite unobjectionable.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL understood that excise officers were to wear uniform, but there might be an occasion when a man would be sent on board without a uniform.

Hon. Mr. GRESSON remarked that if a man was on special detective work he could go aboard in his ordinary clothes and report himself. But a man boarding a ship from a Customs boat should surely be in uniform. They could not expect a ship to be overrun with four or five men in plain clothes.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said it was intended that these men should wear uniforms, but it was not necessary to include that in the Ordinance. There might be an occasion when a man would be sent on board without a uniform.

Hon. Mr. GRESSON—Very well, put him on board in a police launch or in some other way in which he will not be noticed.

HIS EXCELLENCY promised that a regulation should be made that excise officers should wear uniform except when on detective duty.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the omission of clause 35 as printed in the old text, and the substitution for it of clause 34. He hoped that clause would meet the objections put forward on the second reading by the hon. member who spoke against the provision as met by clause 34.

HIS EXCELLENCY explained that the whole of the sub-clauses about breaking in by day and night were much the same as in the Arms Ordinance. The Magistrate has to satisfy himself first that there is *prima facie* evidence to make a case before his warrant issues. He then can only issue it on the word of a person of repute. I think those safeguards are all that can be reasonably asked.

On part VII., of the Bill, clause 37,

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE asked if there was any way by which an informer could be punished for giving false information to the police? A man might do so out of revenge.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—As Dr. Ho Kai says, a man would prefer to use opium for that purpose.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—There is the power to punish a man for perjury if his information is acted upon.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—But it won't be acted upon unless he is somebody of repute.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—An informer is not a man of repute.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—That is for the Police Magistrate to decide.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The mis-informer is not a man of repute.

On the regulation being read,

Hon. Mr. STEWART said he wished to raise a question. It appeared to him that something would have to be done to provide for possible injustice to people who have made forward contracts to deliver liquors to clubs, hospitals, and so on at the old prices. Those contracts may have been entered into *bona fide*, and those people should be considered.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT thought the point ought to be considered, as he knew one firm had four contracts amounting to \$120,000. Those contracts would be repudiated if the goods ordered had to pay the new duty. The Council should go slowly in interfering with those contracts.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied that the revenue would come in very slowly under such conditions.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—That is no reason.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Yes, it is.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—The contracts would have to be entered into before the proposal to tax liquor was discussed.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It would be impossible to test any such statement if put forward. On whom is the onus of proof?

Hon. Mr. STEWART—The contract.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The contract could not be produced. In experience I have seen two sets of vouchers—one headed "for customs purposes."

Hon. Mr. STEWART—You would not find it in this Colony, which has hitherto had no Customs. They could not possibly be so clever as to imagine before this thing came up that we were going to institute a Customs.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—What is your guarantee?

The Hon. Mr. STEWART—They could produce their documents and papers.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Can you give me any precedent for such a provision?

Hon. Mr. STEWART—This is something new. It seems to me that injustice will be done to those people.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—If such a course were adopted you would not have any revenue for years.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—No. Suppose a man has undertaken to supply a club or regiment or hospital with brandy until the end of the year, it would certainly press hardly on him if he should have to continue the supply at the old prices when the import duty has been imposed.

HIS EXCELLENCY—What suggestion have you for dealing with such a case?

Hon. Mr. STEWART—The Governor-in-Council should consider such application made on the ground that the contracts had been made before these proposals were mooted.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—We propose to ask the Committee to give power to the Governor-in-Council in clause 54 to grant certain exemptions. I most candidly think the case you put is not one that should be dealt with under these powers.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—It should be considered.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—If they make applications they will be considered.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—There is one point I would like to mention. The liquor on board ships is not to pay duty, but I was informed that it was contemplated to close up all spirit rooms as long as the ships were in port. If such a thing is not considered necessary in Singapore or Colombo I think it would be an unwise step to take here. It would certainly be resented.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—There is nothing in the Bill referring to that.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—No.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—At the present moment no ship in the harbour has, strictly speaking, any right to sell liquor without a licence.

The clause was adopted.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai moved that a new subsection be inserted providing that "such rules shall be published in the *Gazette* and laid before the Legislative Council, but not to come into force until approved by resolution of that Council." Such a provision had existed in the first draft of the Bill, but had been withdrawn without any reason. This was a new Bill and the regulations made were in the nature of experiments. Unofficial members were, therefore, anxious to have the regulations well considered before they were passed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said it was the old question. Regulations should not be made

by the Governor-in-Council and then come before the Legislative Council for sanction. If those rules were not to be trusted to the Governor-in-Council—

Hon. Mr. STEWART interpolated the remark there were special reasons in this case.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied that there were special reasons in every case.

Hon. Mr. STEWART pointed out that this was an experiment, and it was likely that many mistakes would be made. The public would like to have a say in the framing of the regulations.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said the Bill was a leap in the dark, and they knew it was going to affect their trade, but they did not know to what extent. They contended that the regulations should be submitted to the Legislative Council for approval. Apparently that principle was accepted at one time and a clause to that effect was in the first Bill, but it had since been withdrawn. There was no reason why later regulations should not be left to the Governor-in-Council, but as those regulations were new, the unofficial members were unanimous in urging that that clause in the first print of the Bill should be inserted again.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE thought the Colony was more or less agreed that this Ordinance for raising revenue should pass provided its administration was worked intelligently. The whole success of the measure depended upon details and the manner in which the officials concerned carried out the regulations. Unless the regulations were first submitted to the public they were bound to create considerable friction.

HIS EXCELLENCY pointed out that if the regulations were passed by the Legislative Council they had the force of law, and did not need to be considered by the Executive Council. It might be that the regulations would need to be altered from day to day, and for that reason he thought it advisable that they should be referred to the Executive Council. Any member of the Legislative Council had always the power to bring forward a resolution amending any particular regulation. He did not see that any power was taken from the Legislative Council, neither did he see the object of referring them to the Executive Council if they were to be again subjected to the approval of the Legislative Council.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said that discussion in the Council had resulted in modifications in the Bill, and it might be that the regulations might also require great modification. They had been drawn up by officials and in some cases might need correction. There was no reason why they should not be submitted to the Legislative Council. It was entirely a new departure.

Hon. Mr. STEWART stated that the Bill might divert trade from the Colony. It might change the whole course of some trades.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE said they only asked to see those regulations until such time as they knew the law was working smoothly.

HIS EXCELLENCY said if regulations were to be made they should be made by one body or the other. The practice was that if any member of that Council took exception to any regulation made by the Executive Council it was open to him to give notice and raise a debate on the subject. If they thought too great powers had been given to the Governor-in-Council the clause they had been discussing was one on which to raise the question.

The Hon. Mr. HEWETT said they only asked to see the regulations because it was the first time they were framed. When everything was working smoothly the Governor-in-Council was the proper authority to alter the regulations.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE said it might be proposed to "seal up" ships while in port.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied that they could not conceive an unreasonable regulation like that.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE stated that it had actually been put forward.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT said they did not wish to labour the point, but the unofficial members considered that an unwise regulation might injure the trade of the port, and for that reason they submitted that the regulations should be discussed by the Legislative Council.

HIS EXCELLENCY expressed the opinion that it was not feasible that the Governor-in-Council should make regulations which should afterwards be submitted to the Legislative Council. The

Legislative Council could make any regulations it wished in the form of a Bill.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE asked if the people affected would be consulted before the regulations were drawn up.

HIS EXCELLENCY replied that he thought he could assure the hon. member on that point.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE asked if the regulations would be shown to the people concerned.

HIS EXCELLENCY said that they would use every possible information they could get before making any regulations.

HIS EXCELLENCY said they had had a debate on the subject of amendments brought forward by the senior unofficial member, and he expressed his views on the matter very strongly. With regard to the first draft of the regulations made, he should be glad to show them, before they were published in the *Gazette*, to the unofficial members informally, and to take their opinion upon them. It was proposed to hold a meeting of the Executive Council immediately after this Council meeting concluded, and if unofficial members would attend that meeting he would be pleased to show them the regulations approved by the Executive Council. His Excellency then asked the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai if he wished to put his amendment to the vote.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI said he understood his colleagues wished it to be put to the vote.

The amendment was then put to the vote, and lost by seven votes to six.

When clause 56 had been submitted,

Hon. COLONEL DARLING said he wished to move an amendment to that clause. They had been told several times during the meeting that this Bill was drafted on the lines of the Singapore Bill, but he understood there were two clauses in the latter Bill which exempted officers and men of the army and navy from paying licences for their canteens or messes. He had been interesting himself on the subject during the last few days, and found that Hongkong was the only Colony that did not make an exemption of that sort. In every one of the others, either a rebate of the duty was made afterwards, or a lump sum was paid by the Colony which was based on the proportion of the average amount of duty they would pay, and that was divided up according to rank afterwards. He thought that the Committee would perhaps take into consideration the fact that soldiers had to go where they were sent. It would be rather hard lines on the men who came here to know that they were the only soldiers serving abroad liable to such duties. They were drawing very little money—he did not suppose any of them were making over 8/- a week—and they had no opportunities of making fortunes or getting away if they did not like the place. Civilians who did not care for Hongkong could leave by any steamer, but the soldier had to stay. It was the same way with the officers, but their case was not as bad as that of the men, as they could afford it. But all military and naval officers had to pay income tax at home, whereas people in this Colony, whether official or non-official, paid no income tax at all. Again, the mere fact of troops being quartered in a place resulted in a great deal of money being spent on food, forage, and other supplies. A great deal of War Department money was spent in this Colony, and it all helped trade. He knew everybody's sympathy was the other way, but he must say that it seemed to him there were good reasons why the soldiers should get off. The amendment he proposed was that, "The probable average amount of duty payable on liquors consumed by officers, non-commissioned officers, petty officers and men of the army and navy in N.C.O. messes, institutes and canteens should be determined by a mixed committee of three civilians nominated by His Excellency the Governor, and three officers nominated by the General Officer Commanding, and the sum thus arrived at should be paid monthly to the military or naval authorities for distribution among the men."

HIS EXCELLENCY—Any rebate or concession to be made to the military or naval services can be best made under such a system as the Commanding Officer suggests. I should like to have the opinion of each individual member of the Council as to what the feeling is with regard to

the amendment which the General Officer Commanding has brought forward.

Hon. Mr. STEWART thought the General Officer was mistaken in thinking that the Council would not all wish to support him in this resolution. Speaking for himself, he felt strongly in favour of allowing some remission of duty such as had been suggested. Everyone, he thought, would agree that from an Imperial point of view every encouragement ought to be given to make the soldier's lot as happy and contented as possible—(hear, hear)—and he for one was strongly in favour of devising some means for removing the burden from them. His difficulty hitherto had been that if the soldiers were allowed to import their liquor absolutely free, it would in a very marked way suggest to the outside public that the price of drinks in canteens was probably much less than outside, and it might lead to a practice extremely undesirable from the point of view of public order, and which he thought the military officers ought to try to discourage; that was, a man taking a large number of his friends in and entertaining them in a canteen. Obviously, if this was done to a large extent, considerable hardship would fall on the publicans who paid licences to sell liquor. The method suggested seemed to him to open the way, and he for one would certainly support some such plan as regarded the men. After all, he did not see why we should be less generous than other Colonies, and he would be inclined to support it right through. (The Attorney-General: Hear, hear.)

Hon. COLONEL DARLING said the hon. member made a mistake when he spoke about entertaining in canteens. In such places no one was allowed to be served except a soldier or a sailor. He did not refer to the Soldiers' Club, because that was run more on the lines of a social club, and a soldier could take any friends there.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Do I understand that a soldier cannot take civilians into a canteen?

Hon. COLONEL DARLING—He cannot.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Then my difficulties are considerably lessened.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I am rather inclined, and always have been, to make some concessions to the naval and military, but I think it is a thing on which I should like to have the opinion of the whole Legislative Council.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—My opinion is that in all Imperial matters the Imperial Government should pay. No particular burden should be thrown on this Colony. We pay them a large military contribution per annum.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Unnecessarily large.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—If the soldier does not get enough pay to keep himself in proper circumstances the Imperial Government should raise it. That is nothing to do with us.

Hon. COLONEL DARLING—I don't agree with that.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—I quite agree that military and naval canteens should be exempt, but only on the understanding that they are not to sell liquor to civilians outside. That is to safeguard against a soldier going into a canteen, buying a bottle of whisky, and handing it to a friend outside.

Hon. COLONEL DARLING—They are not allowed to have whisky in canteens.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I think the proposal put forward by the General Officer Commanding certainly must command our sympathy, but I for one consider that all liquor consumed in Hongkong should pay full duty, and I shall vote accordingly.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I should like to have the general opinion of members of this Council as to whether exemption, whole or part, should be made or not on intoxicating liquors consumed by the naval and military services. I should say, let them pay their duties in the ordinary way as everyone else does, and make a rebate afterwards. That gets over the difficulty of people going into canteens. There are three alternatives: whether the whole military duties should be remitted or refunded; secondly, whether part should be; and thirdly, whether none should be.

These alternatives were put to the vote, the result being as follows:—

Remission of whole: Hon. Mr. Stewart, Hon. Mr. Osborne, Hon. Mr. Gresson, Hon.

Mr. Wei Yuk, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, the Captain Superintendent of Police, the Registrar-General, the Attorney-General and the General Officer Commanding.

Remission of part: Hon. Mr. Hewett, the Director of Public Works, the Colonial Treasurer.

No remission: The Colonial Secretary. Council then resumed.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—This Bill has been fully debated. Great care has been given to it by the members of the unofficial body, and the fullest possible consideration to the amendments and arguments addressed on the Bill has been given by the Council. The matter of collecting revenue is urgent, and I would move that the Standing Orders be suspended.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL then moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

BILLS POSTPONED.

The following resolutions included in the orders of the day were postponed:—

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorize the Construction and Maintenance of a Harbour of Refuge upon and over certain portions of the Sea Bed and Foreshore situated upon the Harbour frontage at Taikoktsui, Mongkoktsui, and Yaumati, Kowloon, in this Colony.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Tramway Ordinance, 1902.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licences Ordinance, 1898, and the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908, and to repeal the Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1902.

Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to set apart certain Crown Land to be used as a burial ground for persons professing the Christian Religion, other than members of the Roman Catholic Church.

Third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Malicious Damage Ordinance, 1855.

Third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to relieve the Governor-in-Council of certain duties.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Council will now adjourn *sine die*.

THUNDERSTORM FATALITIES.

The short but severe thunderstorm which passed over the Colony on Tuesday afternoon did considerable damage to property as well as causing injury or death to a number of persons. A coolie while shovelling coal on a cargo boat at Yaumati was struck by lightning, severely burned, and died almost instantly. The same flash of lightning struck another coolie engaged on the same work, and he fell to the ground unconscious, but recovered shortly afterwards. On the praya at West Point another native was struck dead. A driver on one of the Peak cars had his hand severely burnt as the car was ascending to the Peak, while a soldier at Mt. Austin Barracks was knocked down, but uninjured.

Miss Webster, while bathing at Peitaiho, the *China Times* of 10th inst. says, got out of her depth, and being seized by current or tide, found herself in difficulties. Mrs. Rowland Wade, who was also bathing, went to her assistance, and the cries of both ladies brought to their aid the Rev. A. Bryson and Mr. Vliegenghart, while Mr. Sly, who was walking on the beach, also entered the water and swam in his clothes and boots to assist the ladies. Mr. Sly first reached them, and then Mr. Bryson and Mr. Vliegenghart came up. Miss Webster had sunk twice, and was unconscious, and Mrs. Wade was pluckily holding her up and keeping her head out of water. Mr. Bryson relieved her of this task, and took Miss Webster ashore, while Mr. Vliegenghart and Mr. Sly, assisted Mrs. Wade to land. Mrs. Rowland Wade, however, was the chief heroine of the incident, it being to her prompt efforts in the first instance that Miss Webster owes the preservation of her life, and it is said that already steps have been taken to obtain for Mrs. Wade the medal of the Royal Humane Society.

THE IMPORT TAX ON INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

THE REGULATIONS.

The *Government Gazette* on Saturday contains the following regulations:—

No. 569.—Regulations made by the Governor-in-Council under Section 55 (b) of the Liquors Ordinance 1909, (Ordinance No. 27 of 1909), to regulate the import of intoxicating liquors by junk, this 17th day of September, 1909.

1. Every junk as defined by the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, arriving in the Colony with any intoxicating liquors or denatured spirits on board shall at once proceed to either the "Junk Anchorage, Victoria" (as defined by the regulations made under the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, and Ordinances amending the same), and shall not, without the special permission of the Harbour Master, anchor or moor or discharge any cargo or goods or passengers' baggage at any other place.

2. The report required (under the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, as amended by later Ordinances) to be furnished by the master of every junk on arrival shall include detailed particulars of the descriptions, marks and quantities of all intoxicating liquors and denatured spirits on board the junk, and of the names of the consignees or owners of such liquors: If such report contains any false or misleading statement the master shall be deemed to have committed an offence under the Liquors Ordinance, 1909.

3. No dutiable liquors or denatured spirits shall be imported in any junk of a less burden than 300 piculs.

4. No vessel or package containing any dutiable liquors or denatured spirits shall be opened on board a junk except in the presence of the Superintendent or a Revenue or Police Officer: the master of the junk as well as the person opening such vessel or package shall be responsible for any breach of this regulation.

No. 570.—Regulation made by the Governor-in-Council on the 17th day of September 1909, under Section 55 (c) of the Liquors Ordinance, 1909 (Ordinance No. 27 of 1909), with reference to King's Warehouses.

1. The Governor-in-Council hereby approves and appoints the Godowns at Kowloon Point and at West Point, the property of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and the Godowns at Kowloon Point known as "Holt's Wharf," the property of the Ocean Steamship Company, Limited, to be King's Warehouses for the purpose of the Liquors Ordinance, 1909.

2. For the purposes of the said Ordinance and of all Regulations made thereunder the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and Ocean Steamship Company, Limited, shall be the respective Keepers of the King's Warehouses approved and appointed under the preceding regulation, and shall be responsible for the due observance and performance of all the duties devolving upon such Keepers.

3. Every Keeper on receiving a request from the Master, owner or agent of any ship lying within the Harbour Limits as defined by the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, shall forthwith remove from such ship into a King's Warehouse all such dutiable liquors and denatured spirits as such Master, owner or agent may require to be so removed: and shall store such dutiable liquors and denatured spirits in a King's Warehouse to the order of such Master, owner or agent.

4. Every Keeper on receiving a request from any person holding a permit under the Ordinance which entitles the holder to store any dutiable liquors or denatured spirits in a King's Warehouse shall forthwith store the same in a King's Warehouse.

5.—(1.) Dutiable liquors and denatured spirits may be divided into such classes as the Keeper may determine having regard to the rules of the Fire Insurance Association of Hongkong.

(2.) Liquors and Spirits in each class shall be stored in such Godown as the Keeper shall decide.

6. Every Keeper shall set apart sufficient space in a King's Warehouse for the testing,

sampling, breaking down, bottling, blending and mixing of dutiable liquors and denatured spirits in accordance with the Liquors Ordinance, 1909, and all Regulations made thereunder.

7. Rates for moving and storing dutiable liquors and denatured spirits or for the use of any space in a King's Warehouse under Regulation No. 6 must be approved by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports.

8. Every Keeper shall immediately after any liquors or denatured spirits are received into or removed from a King's Warehouse make due entry of such receipt or removal in a special book in a form to be approved by the Superintendent.

9. Every Keeper shall make daily returns to the Superintendent in a form to be approved by him of all liquors or denatured spirits received into or removed from the King's Warehouses and of all breaking down, bottling, blending and mixing operations.

No. 571.—Rules made by the Governor-in-Council under Section 55 (d) of the Liquors Ordinance, 1909 (Ordinance No. 27 of 1909), this 17th day of September, 1909.

LICENSED WAREHOUSES.

1. Applications for licences shall be made to the Superintendent. Licences shall be in the Form A in the Schedule hereto.

2. Fees for licences in respect of a portion of a year only may be received at the rate of one-twelfth of the full fee for each month in respect of any part of which the licence may be issued.

3. No structural alteration to any licensed premises shall be made without the permission in writing of the Superintendent.

4. No article may be stored in a licensed warehouse other than dutiable liquors or denatured spirits.

5. No licensed warehouse shall be open for the receipt or delivery of dutiable liquors or denatured spirits between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. or on Sundays or Public Holidays.

6. Every licensee shall immediately after any liquors are received into or removed from his licensed premises make due entry of such receipt or removal in a stock-book in the Form B in the Schedule hereto, the entries to be made in English except such as relate to native wines and spirits in a licensed warehouse of which the licensee of Chinese race which entries may be made in Chinese.

7. Every licensee shall not later than noon on every Monday morning (or on the following day if Monday is a Public Holiday) furnish to the Superintendent a return in the Form C in the Schedule hereto concerning all dutiable liquors and denatured spirits stored, received and removed during the previous week.

[We refer interested readers to the *Gazette* for the Forms mentioned in the above Regulations—ED.]

No. 572.—Regulations made by the Governor-in-Council on the 17th day of September, 1909, under Section 55 (j) of the Liquors Ordinance, 1909 (Ordinance No. 27 of 1909), for the breaking down, blending, mixing and bottling of dutiable liquors.

1. No barrels, casks, cases, boxes, tins, bottles or other vessels containing dutiable liquors shall be opened and no dutiable liquor shall be diminished, increased, mixed or altered in any way in quantity or quality except in a King's Warehouse or Licensed Warehouse.

2.—(a.) Whenever any person desires to open any barrel, cask, case, box, tin, bottle or other vessel containing dutiable liquors, or to diminish, increase, mix or alter any dutiable liquor in quantity or quality he shall give notice of such desire during office hours on the working day previous to the day on which he wishes to commence operations, and shall not commence operations before 6 a.m. of the working day following the giving of such notice. No such operations shall be carried on on a Sunday or a Public Holiday.

(b.) Such notice shall state—

(i.) the nature of the proposed operation, and the quantity of the liquors to be affected;

(ii.) the place where such liquors are stored;

(iii.) the time at which operations will commence.

3. All barrels, casks, cases, boxes, tins, bottles or other vessels intended to be dealt with

shall be placed in such a manner as to allow convenient access to the Superintendent or any revenue officer to examine and gauge the same and to examine and watch the operations.

4. The work shall not without the consent of the Superintendent in writing commence before 6 a.m. or continue after 6 p.m., provided that when the bottling of the contents of any cask has commenced it may be continued until the whole is bottled.

5. The keeper of a King's Warehouse or the licensee of a Licensed Warehouse shall keep an accurate account of all operations carried out under these regulations.

6. The person giving a notice under Regulation 2 shall pay to the keeper of a King's Warehouse a reasonable fee (to be fixed by the Superintendent) for the use of any space in such warehouse used for such operations.

C. CLEMENTI,
Clerk of Councils.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
17th September, 1909.

LIQUOR LAW IN OPERATION.

To the surprise of most people the Liquor Ordinance which was passed by the Legislative Council about seven p.m. on Friday came into operation that same night. Opinion is of course divided as to the justice of the step—so much depending on the point of view—but the fact is apparent that the Government had made their plans very speedily for applying the law at once. Before the Bill passed through the committee stage the godowns selected for the bonded warehouses had been chosen, the preventive staff had been appointed, and arrangements had been made for the collection of duties at the earliest possible opportunity. Whether the liquor law be approved or not, the Government is entitled to commendation for the expedition with which they made and carried out their plans. We understand that Lieut. Beckwith, Acting Harbour-master, has been appointed Controller of Customs, and a European staff of revenue officers has been selected, comprising Detective Sergt. Wilden, Sanitary Inspectors L. E. Brett and D. J. Mackenze, and Mr. J. Clelland. A number of Chinese have also been engaged, Sergt. Wilden, with a staff of Chinese, visited four or five of the incoming steamers from Canton at midnight and early morning and informed those concerned that the liquor on board could not be landed unless duty were paid. Later in the day the necessary charges were paid. It is satisfactory to know that the law is being administered in a sensible manner, there being no intention to do more at first than merely warn importers that duty will be collected on the liquor consigned to them.

Naturally the promptness displayed is not to the liking of those engaged in the trade, and many criticisms have been heard regarding the step taken. Our representative interviewed a gentleman of the trade, who, while of the opinion that the Ordinance would be vexatious to them for some time until they got accustomed to all the details of the new procedure to be gone through, admitted that in the course of time it would work smoothly enough. At the same time he did not believe that the Government would realise the eight lakhs of dollars which they expected to add to the revenue. He contended that little more than the half would be netted, and for the reasons that the shipping trade, the trade done among the vessels which come to the harbour, would receive a blow, while the trade on land would be considerably diminished.

Taking the last point first, he argued that people having to pay more for their liquor would naturally drink less. They would endeavour to keep their bills within the limits of the old figures, or as nearly as possible. Moreover those who had acquired the taste for liquor which would not be denied and could not afford to pay more than they had done would resort to cheap liquors, with the inevitable result that the legitimate trade would be killed. Cheap whisky would flood the market, and its injurious effects on the drinkers can be imagined. Dealing with the shipping trade, the speaker contended that mail steamers from America which had previously purchased lavishly here would

obtain their supplies at Shanghai, where there is only a five per cent. duty. The same with cargo steamers. The officers and men bought freely here for their own consumption because of the lower rates prevailing, but now they would buy at any of the other ports where they became conscious of their needs. As some of these ships remain in port almost a fortnight there is no possibility of their getting the liquor they consume during that time free of duty. When it is estimated that the trade on the water amounts to half a million dollars a year it would be seen how extensive was the loss which would be sustained. Then to make the prospect less rosy for the Government, it was contemplated giving a rebate in whole or in part of the duty on the liquor consumed in the naval and military canteens. As the service men consumed by far the larger proportion of liquor on land it followed that the profits to the Government were likely to be considerably diminished.

On Sept. 20 a representative of the *Daily Press* had an interview with Lieut. Beckwith, Acting Harbour Master, and Superintendent of Imports and Exports, with reference to the operation of the liquor law. He stated that there would be no seizures unless they found people attempting to smuggle, say, if it was found that liquor came in labelled as "provisions" or something of the sort. At present all that would be done would be to inform consignees that duty would be collected on the liquor consigned to them. Naturally it would take some time before the law became generally known, and therefore they did not intend to harass the trade in the slightest degree. The Chinese, he added, were somewhat apprehensive about the operation of the new law, but he intended holding a meeting with the leading members of the native community at the Tung Wah Hospital and explaining to them what was to be done. Asked if there was anything in bond yet, he replied that there were 500 cases. Some discussion had taken place as to the consignment of liquor on board the steamer *Peshawur*, which arrived in port from Singapore on Friday evening, but as the vessel entered the Colony before the law was passed, the liquor could not be held liable to duty.

Incoming steamers are experiencing the novelty of being boarded by a revenue officer who inquires as to what liquors are on board. Nothing more than inquiry is made, and not even the most captious seem to find cause to complain at the visits. It is stated that the staff of European revenue officers will be increased shortly.

The fears expressed by some of those interested that the trade of supplying the shipping in the harbour would be crippled by the application of the duties are now proved to be groundless. We are officially informed that the harbour trade will not be materially affected. Ships will receive their supplies in cases from bond, which will be sent out duty free, but a receipt must be given signed either by the captain or the chief officer.

SIR EDWARD GREY AND THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

The following paragraph from a recent London paper amplifies the information cabled by Reuter about three weeks ago:—

Sir Edward Grey, replying to a memorial from Scotland urging the speedier ending of the opium traffic and a relaxation of the treaty obligations in favour of China, says that the Government fully sympathise with the memorialists, but the reports of British representatives in China tend to confirm the opinion that the period proposed by the Chinese Government for the complete suppression of the traffic is by no means excessive in order to enable a change of such magnitude in the habits of the population to be successfully effected. The British Government, he adds, are bound to uphold British treaty rights; but while opposing the establishment of monopolies in open courts they have made it clear to the Chinese Government that they have every desire to support *bona fide* steps for the suppression of the evils arising from the consumption of opium.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB OPEN-AIR CONCERT.

We should think the attendance on the Cricket Ground on Saturday night must have been a record one for a concert in Hongkong. The theatre would probably not have accommodated more than half the number. Owing to the proximity of a typhoon the atmosphere was somewhat oppressive and only relieved by very fitful breezes, but the night was fairly clear and the concert proved a great success in every way. The Club pavilion, which the large audience faced, had been gaily adorned with bunting, greenery, festoons of Chinese lanterns and coloured electric lights, and formed a very pretty platform for the performers.

The concert was opened by the Band of The Buffs, with an excellent rendering of Rossini's "William Tell," the second item of the programme being a bass solo by Mr. W. S. Hone, who sang "Thy Sentiment am I." Mr. Hone is a recent arrival in the Colony, and this, we believe, was his first appearance on a local concert platform. He has a very fine voice and the song was given in excellent style. An encore was demanded, and Mr. Hone obliged with an equally excellent rendering of "A Warrior Bold." Miss Gaelic Potts followed with a violin solo (Professor Gonzales accompanying), the piece chosen being a "Serenade." The violin is an instrument not heard to the best advantage at an open-air concert, but the execution was good, and the audience insisted on an encore. Mrs. Belilios, an old favourite, who was next on the programme, sang "Ave Maria," with Band accompaniment. It was a much appreciated item in the programme. Mrs. Belilios was in capital voice, and the accompaniment of the Band was beautifully impressive. In response to the demands of the audience, part of the solo was repeated. Then came Mr. W. G. Worcester, always welcome, with a couple of humorous songs which the audience much enjoyed, and the Band brought the first part of the programme to a close with a selection from German's "Merrie England."

After an interval of ten minutes the Band gave as the overture to the second part of the programme Tchaikowski's "1812," which relates to the siege of Moscow. Bandmaster Hewett is to be highly complimented on the Band's performance of this piece, with its illustrative musketry firing and finally the joyous pealing of the church bells in celebration of victory. The audience followed the music attentively and evidently greatly enjoyed it. Humorous duetts by Messrs. Carroll and Worcester followed, the topical allusions they contained being especially amusing. One of the best appreciated items in the programme was Mr. George P. Lammert's tenor song "Nirvana" (Adams), which was very finely sung, and the other short song he gave as an encore was equally enjoyed. Mrs. Badeley followed with (a) "Rose in the Bud" (Forster) and (b) "Happy Song" (Del. Riego), both exquisitely sung, but the singer's voice could not, we fear, have been heard by the majority of the audience. Next came a comic song by Mr. Hannibal, whose re-appearance was demanded, and he gave some highly entertaining recitations, in which his powers of imitation were well displayed. The programme concluded with an extract from the third act of "Lohengrin" by the band, and the National Anthem brought an enjoyable evening to a close at half-past eleven. Mr. G. Grimble played most of the accompaniments.

Mr. E. A. M. Williams, Secretary of the Hongkong Cricket Club, writes:—"My Committee desire me to ask you to be good enough to allow them to express through you their most sincere thanks to all those who assisted in any way towards the production of what they believe to have been a successful concert on the night of Saturday, the 18th instant. Not the least of the assistance to which I refer was that of the local Press."

The *N.-C. Daily News* understands that a large firm in Japan has made a contract with the Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., to buy 150,000 tons of the "Kaiping" coal. The shipments will be made from Chinwangtao, the C. E. & M. Co.'s port.

NOTES FROM JAPAN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tokyo, September 6.

THE STOCK MARKET.

During the past fortnight we have had every indication of a steady revival on the Stock Exchange, and Kabuto-cho is now the centre of greater activity than has been witnessed since the collapse early in 1907. The upward movement began last month, the principal factors to start the market being the improved situation *vis-à-vis* China and various reports concerning the Tokyo Tetsudo Kaisha, rumours that the tramways would either be municipalised or the fares raised. All principal stocks rose by from one to ten points in a few days, and with the close of August the market was exceptionally strong. There is now little question but that an optimistic feeling is gaining ground, in view of the better prospects in China and the coming trade revival. The following quotations of some of the principal stocks show the advance that has taken place in the course of the month:—

	July 31	August 31
Tokyo Stock Ex....	154	177
Tokyo Trams	63	72
N. Y. K.	77	84
Tokyo Elec. Light ..	90	94
Kanegafuchi	99	113
Tokyo Gas	97	103
Dai Nippon Brewery	73	79

Considerable further advance in these prices was recorded on the 1st and 2nd instant, but since then there has been a slight falling off due to profit taking. On Saturday the signing of the new Chino-Japanese agreement was announced, to-day the subscription lists of the newly-established Bank of Korea will be opened, and these favourable factors, in conjunction with the highly favourable reports concerning the rice crop, are likely to send quotations higher than ever during the coming week.

TOKYO TRAMS.

The stock of the Tokyo Tetsudo Kaisha has changed hands at 72 yen during the past week, a high price to pay for a 5 per cent. investment, and especially in a country where a 7 per cent. stock is usually only quoted at par. But the potentialities of this company make it an attractive investment. The rate of fare is recognised as being too low to ensure an efficient service and a fair return to shareholders, but public opinion seems to be divided as to whether there will be an increase of fare or whether the municipality will take over the concern. Originally the latter estimated that they would receive 300,000 yen a year from the profits of the company, which was to turn over a percentage of its profits after a dividend of 7 per cent. had been paid to shareholders, but as shareholders have never received 7 per cent. the city gets nothing. If the fare were increased to the extent of one sen and the service managed in a business-like way, the result would be beneficial to all, the city because of its revenue, the citizens because of an improved service, and the shareholders, who would then receive 7 or 8 per cent.; with the present fare there is no prospect of an improvement in the service. The company cannot afford to run sufficient cars to eliminate the strap-hanger, and in the city proper overcrowded cars are the rule. In such matters of accommodation, punctuality, and cleanliness of cars, the service is woefully lacking. For these things the low fare is responsible, and until the company gets an increased revenue it cannot be expected to provide cars that are clean or prevent overcrowding, which robs the passenger of the comfort he ought to be entitled to.

THE BANK OF KOREA.

The subscription lists are to be opened to-day all over the country for the shares of the Bank of Korea, the new monetary organ that is to take the place of Baron Shibusawa's First Bank in the peninsula. A dividend of 6 per cent. will be guaranteed by the Korean Government for five years, and this fact, together with the prospects of the new bank as the sole monetary organ in Korea, is sufficient to ensure the issue being a great success. Although shares can only be legally held by Japanese and Koreans, foreigners are subscribing largely to this venture, which will share what good fortune awaits the Japanese exploitation of Korea.

FIRE AND EARTHQUAKE.

No writer could hope to place before a reader so vivid a picture of disaster as has been recorded in cinematograph films of the great fire at Osaka and the earthquake in Gifu and Shiga prefectures. The terrible consequences of these events have been seen and realised by thousands of Tokyo people, who a year or two ago would have had no means beyond an ordinary newspaper record of realising the extent of the disasters and the sufferings of the people. In the record of the earthquake results the cinematograph shows us the scenes as they were taking place in primitive villages a day or two after the earthquake. Not a building standing: a confused mass of crushed dwellings, which have given way under the weight of a heavy roof, and the villagers like ants working to clear away the debris. In the midst of the ruin old folk and young are doing their part moving tiles and rafters preparatory to rebuilding. Human nature being full of resource, these people, the first shock and panic over, go about their work as light-heartedly as ever. At regular hours food is distributed in the shape of rice balls, etc. The cinematograph also shows us the operations of the Red Cross. The injured, temporarily bandaged, are placed Buddha fashion in small baskets, and the load, slung on a pole on the shoulders of two men, is hurried off to hospital. The wrecks of temples, fallen torii and other monuments are all shown. Yet if the afflicted districts are visited six months hence the restoration will be found almost complete. Such houses as the peasantry occupy are easily rebuilt, while the temple torii and statuary simply require replacing, as they have only been disjoined by the shock, the various parts lying scattered on the ground, but rarely broken.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

THE CHANGE OF GOVERNOR.

H. E. Senhor Rocadas is leaving here on the 24th inst., proceeding to Hongkong by the gunboat *Patria*. His Excellency and family embark on the French mail steamer at Hongkong. Our new Governor, Senhor Eduardo Marques, is coming up on the *Patria* from Hongkong on Tuesday, the 21st inst.

DISCRIMINATING JUSTICE.

Some recent happenings in the local court have caused a deal of comment. Contempt of court was committed by four persons, who ignored summonses requiring their attendance. In one case the absentees were an Army Captain, a shroff of the Banco Nacional, and a priest. They were notified some days before the hearing of the case. In the other case the absentee was the treasurer of the Leal Senado, who received his summons only ten minutes before the case was appointed to come on. The priest and the treasurer were ordered to pay a fine of \$50 each; the Army Captain and the shroff got off scot free. Why? The offence in each case was precisely the same.

THE PUBLIC GAOL.

"The black-hole of Macao" would probably be a better description for the place in which the prisoners are at present confined. For some years past the unfitness of the building has been recognised, and there has been talk—merely talk—about building a new gaol. I hear that there is much sickness in the gaol at the present time, and I am not in the least surprised.

Within a few months three British missionary secretaries will be on tours of inspection of the missionary stations in China. Bishop Ingham is already on his way as the representative of the Church Missionary Society. In October the Rev. C. Stedeford, the newly-appointed secretary of the United Methodist Church Missions, will start on a nine months' tour, extending from Shanghai to Yunnan. The other missionary tourist is the Rev. G. Currie Martin, the newly-appointed secretary of the London Missionary Society, who leaves London early in November. He will visit all the stations from Peking to Hongkong. One object of the visit is to form an advisory council of the Chinese missionaries, so as to co-ordinate as far as possible the work in the various provinces.

COMPANY REPORTS.

THE DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED.

The Report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-sixth ordinary general meeting, next Saturday, is as follows:—

The general managers have now to submit to the shareholders their report on the twenty-sixth year's working of the company, ending June 30th, 1909.

After paying all running expense, premia of insurance, remuneration to the consulting committee and auditors' fees there remains a balance at credit of profit and loss account of \$1,311.54, which with the approval of shareholders will be transferred to the reserve fund; from which, in order to provide for depreciation of the company's properties it is proposed to take the sum of \$35,950.33.

The reserve fund will then stand at \$230,000.00.

The depression in trade referred to in the last report has been accentuated during the period under review, and while cargo has been scarce, competition on our line has been keener than ever in face of the unfavourable condition of shipping in the East generally, and rates of freight have had to be reduced in consequence.

Accidents to the *Haiching* and *Haimun* during the year entailed their withdrawal from the line for a considerable period and have affected earnings appreciably, while the high price of fuel has also been a serious factor against profitable working: the amount expended on this account being considerably in excess of that of previous years.

The steamers and other properties of the Company are in first class order.

The amounts appearing as "freights due" and "accounts receivable" have since been collected.

Consulting Committee.—The Committee now consists of Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson and Mr. R. Shewan, who retire in terms of the Articles of Association, but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The Accounts for the first six months have been audited by Messrs. A. R. Lowe and W. H. Potts and for the final six months by Messrs. W. H. Potts and E. A. M. Williams, the latter acting for Mr. Lowe. Messrs. Lowe and Potts now retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

DOUGLAS, LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

For the year ended 30th June, 1909.

To dividend paid for year ending 30th June, 1908.	\$50,000.00
To amount written off for depreciation for year ending 30th June, 1908.	23,462.04
	\$73,462.04
To exchange account	4,341.47
To general interest account	2,430.44
To auditors' fees	600.00
To remuneration to consulting committee for 12 months	2,000.00
To remuneration to general managers for office expenses, for 12 months	10,000.00
To loss on running the company's steamers during the year	5,032.68
To balance	1,311.54
	\$99,178.17

By balance of profit and loss account, 30th June, 1908.	\$73,462.04
By interest on mortgages	24,570.84
By coal account	1,145.29
	\$99,178.17

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1909.

LIABILITIES.

Capital account:—	
30,000 shares at \$50	\$1,000,000.00
Reserve fund	264,638.79
Underwriting a/c of the Company	100,589.78
Unpaid bonus	138.00
Unpaid dividends	381.50

Sundry a/cs payable	92,076.32
Profit and loss a/c	1,311.54
	\$1,459,135.93

ASSETS.

Value of the Co.'s steamers:— <i>Haitan</i> , <i>Haiching</i> , <i>Haimun</i> , and <i>Haikyong</i>	\$1,106,580.00
Additions since made	2,207.00
	\$1,108,787.00
Less amount written off as resolved at the last general meeting	21,000.00
	\$1,087,787.00
Value of buoys and moorings at Swatow, Amoy, Tamsui and Hongkong, as per last report	\$31,425.69
Additions since made	2,450.00
	\$33,287.69
Less amount written off as resolved at the last general meeting	2,462.04
	31,425.65
Loans on mortgage	215,000.00
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank (current account)	26,878.56
Freights due on 30th June, 1909	44,084.56
Sundry account receivable from agencies, &c.	49,018.83
Cash in hand	577.77
Unexpired tonnage dues	1,443.56
Coal a/c stock in hand	2,920.00
	\$1,459,135.93

THE HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING & DYEING CO., LTD.

The report for presentation to shareholders at the twelfth ordinary meeting on Saturday, is as follows:—

The general managers beg to submit a statement of accounts covering the period from 1st August, 1908, to 31st July, 1909.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss account is \$29,506.51, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

To write off furniture account	\$ 3,209.49
To carry forward to credit of next year's account	26,297.02
	\$29,506.51

Consulting committee:—Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar retire, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditor:—The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Hutton Potts, who offers himself for re-election.

JARDINE MATHESON & Co., LTD.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th September, 1909.

BALANCE SHEET 31ST JULY, 1909.

LIABILITIES.

Capital account	\$1,250,000.00
Sundry creditors	495,865.62
Unclaimed dividends	4,054.30
Equalization of dividend fund	20,000.00
Profit and loss account	29,506.51
	\$1,799,426.43

ASSETS.

Property—comprising land, buildings and machinery	\$1,303,507.93
Furniture	3,209.49
Sundry debtors	43,696.14
Cash	2,008.16
Cotton, value of stock	166,073.93
Yarn, value of stock	210,853.50
Waste, value of stock	6,678.30
Mill stores, of stock	58,036.71
Coal, value of stock	3,475.30
Fire insurance and taxes pertaining to period after 31st July, 1909	1,886.97
	\$1,799,426.43

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	
To remuneration to general managers, 10 per cent. on balance of working account	\$2,573.46
To remuneration to consulting committee	3,000.00
To auditor's fee	250.00
	\$ 5,823.46
To balance	29,506.51
	\$ 35,329.97
Cr.	
By balance from last year	\$9,553.35
By gain in working	25,734.62
By transfer fees	42.00
	\$ 35,329.97

COMPANY MEETING.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

The semi-annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Yokohama Specie Bank was held on September 9 in the Bank's hall, Baron K. Takahashi occupying the chair. The following accounts for the first half of this year were presented and passed—

	Yen.
Total receipts	10,848,173
Brought forward from last account	1,141,676
Total	11,989,849
Total expenditure	8,994,008
Net profit	2,995,841
To reserve	400,000
Dividend (12 per cent. per annum)	1,440,000
Carried to next account	1,155,841

The CHAIRMAN, addressing the shareholders said:—

Gentlemen,—In opening the fifty-ninth semi-annual general meeting of our shareholders, and presenting to you a report covering the first half of the current year and asking for your adoption of the same, as well as inviting your consent to the appropriation of profits, I propose to refer briefly to the economic conditions of the country generally, as well as to the general state of our banking operations.

Our economic conditions, during the first half of the current year, appeared at first glance to be in a very inactive state, differing little from the conditions ruling last year; but after a closer survey of the situation, it is noticeable that matters appear to have altered in a marked degree. The large stocks of merchandise seem to have nearly all been disposed of during the period between the latter part of last year and the spring of this year, while the bulk of the various enterprises, which suffered from the effect of the depression during the period under review, steadily recovered, enabling things to be placed once more on a sound and firm footing. However, having once experienced adverse conditions, the market is still exercising caution, although it is progressing towards a fair recovery. Considering the way in which prosperity is returning in Europe and the United States of America, we can hardly hope for any immediate activity in Japan; consequently we have not yet experienced any marked demand for money in various grades of enterprise.

In addition to the above state of things the successful floating of loans abroad for various municipalities and companies, coupled with the sale of the various Government Stocks abroad having facilitated the influx of capital from foreign countries, our internal money market has become more and more slack, and the interest on money has gradually declined; and although banks in all parts of the country have gone so far as to lower the rate of interest, yet they continually found themselves in difficulty to find proper outlets for their money.

Now, looking at the state of our foreign trade during the first half-year, we find that the exports and imports amount roughly to Y.187,000,000 and Y.214,510,000 respectively, making a total of Y.401,510,000. These figures, when compared with those for the corresponding period of the previous year, show a falling off amounting to Y.38,480,000 in imports but as

there is an increase of Y.13,980,000 in exports, the net result is a decrease of about Y.24,500,000, including both exports and imports. Of these figures the decrease in imports chiefly relate to iron material and machinery, and this we must attribute to the fact that the business men of all classes are maintaining a cautious and guarded policy; while the increase in exports is due, on the one hand, to an improvement in some degree of our trade with China, caused by the comparative recovery of the silver, and, on the other, to the increased export of raw silk, tea and other articles, consequent upon the improved general economic conditions in Europe and the United States. In short, although there is a decrease in the foreign trade generally, when compared with the corresponding period of last year, the general tendency of the trade may be favourable to our country, and we see nothing special to cause any anxiety.

Although, as already mentioned, the internal money market has been very dull, and while our external commerce has exhibited a falling off, yet the actual conditions of our banking operations has differed from the prevailing conditions of things in general, and we have seen a general briskness, due to such special circumstances as the very large sales of Government Stocks abroad, in addition to a marked increase in the export of silk. During the first half of this year the amount of exchange sold and bought in Japan on foreign countries totalled roughly Y.30,600,000 and Y.91,570,000 respectively. If we compare these figures with those of the corresponding period of the preceding year we find the increase amounting to Y.5,490,000 in the case of exchange sold and Y.9,850,000 in the case of exchange bought; while the exchange bought and sold in foreign countries on Japan amounted to Y.79,610,000 and Y.29,390,000 respectively. A comparison of these figures with those of the corresponding period of last year shows that although there was a decrease of Y.2,410,000 in the exchange bought, yet as there was an increase in that sold amounting to Y.4,190,000 the net result was an actual increase of Y.17,120,000 in the totals of all the exchange operations in Japan on foreign countries, and vice versa by all the offices of this Bank.

We have, however, to express great regret that as an outcome of the economic disturbances of recent years, the collection of some of the bills discounted and foreign exchange in Kobe, Osaka and Ryojun could not be effected as it really should have been, and the amounts had to be adjusted in the present financial year by either writing off as a loss or by providing funds for bad or doubtful debts. In spite of these, unfortunate transactions, our business has been active and extensive. Both the Head as well as Branch Offices and Agencies were all able to make fair profits, with the result that they differ little from that of the preceding period. These profits amount to Y.1,854,164.38, the appropriation of which we have drafted, and submit for your consideration and adoption.

Before concluding these remarks, I have one other matter to refer to. Our Chefoo Agency, which was opened in June of 1905 for the purpose chiefly of adjusting the withdrawal of the War Notes, will be closed on September 30, as there being no further business of this kind to transact, the maintenance of the said Agency has become unnecessary.

THE OPIUM COMEDY.

CHINESE EYE-WASH.

* The evidence placed before the Shanghai Opium Commission as to the attitude of China towards the closing of the opium dens seems to justify those who doubted the ability, if not the desire, of China to change the habits of the people, as there are many who do not believe that she can abolish the opium habit in a century. There have been floods of talk about the Chinese Government's stringent orders, and Provincial Governor's energetic action in closing opium dens and restricting poppy cultivation. But, as most people who know anything of the Chinese suspected, it seems to have been mainly talk. Statistics could not be obtained, and positive evidence that China is carrying out her part of the bargain appeared to be practically nil.—*Calcutta Englishman.*

HONESTY AND NATIONALITY.

Our Peking contemporary writes:—

Readers of the *Peking Daily News* will endorse the statement that in dealing with the question of honesty, it has been our constant contention that no race or no nation has a monopoly of that article. In discussing this question our position has always been that while China does not claim a monopoly of honesty, neither does China nor China's officials deserve the wholesale charge of dishonesty so often made by certain foreigners.

It is not our purpose to go over the ground again. There is another phase of this honesty question which interests us at this particular time.

It is of common knowledge that when, recently, certain Chinese officials were punished in connection with disclosures concerning the Tientsin-Pukow railway, this action was seized upon by a section of the British Press as an excuse for a savage attack upon the Tientsin-Pukow loan terms which, by inference, at least, were pictured as responsible for the malpractices charged against these officials. These attacks, as has been shown, were aimed also against certain unnamed Germans.

It is a favourite theme of some English writers that the commercial success of the Germans in China has been due to resort to "devious practices" which no Englishman would resort to. These charges are as a rule not accompanied by specifications, but no matter. Whether the English are more honest than the Germans we have no means of knowing. That all Englishmen are honest we have no more believed than that all Chinese are honest. Whether all Englishmen engaged in commercial life are so high-minded that they would not stoop to the "devious practices" charged against the Germans—if there are any such practices—is a subject too large for our limited knowledge.

The effort to, in any way, hold the Tientsin-Pukow loan terms responsible for the malpractices disclosed in the Throne's punishment of Chinese officials has, as we have heretofore pointed out, no warrant. Certainly there was nothing in the report of His Excellency Na Tung to indicate that the acts charged were in any way due to any laxity of financial regulation, or that the finances of the railway were in any way involved.

The underlying purpose of this attack upon the Tientsin-Pukow terms was, of course, to impress the financial world to believe in the superiority of the Kowloon terms, for which the British and Chinese Corporation has so strongly contended. The Kowloon terms were described as the only ones absolutely and completely insuring honesty of administration of railway funds in China.

This may be ancient history to our readers, but it is made rather live by a highly interesting police court proceeding at Shanghai, news of which has just been received by way of the latest Shanghai newspapers.

This tells of the arrest and remanding into custody of Mr. Butler Wright, chief accountant of the Canton-Kowloon railway, upon a charge of embezzlement!

THE BRITISH CHIEF ACCOUNTANT OF THE CANTON-K WLOON RAILWAY ACCUSED OF EMBEZZLEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE FUNDS OF THAT RAILWAY.

We have, of course, no intention of charging that this well-known Englishman is guilty of the charge made against him. The charge is made by the British authorities, he was arrested on a steamer at Shanghai upon the British Consul General's warrant, it being believed, apparently, that his reported sudden disappearance from Canton was for the purpose of escaping arrest there. He may be entirely innocent—but the British authorities seem to think otherwise. Anyway, the latest advices found Mr. Wright "remanded in custody for seven days!"

The moral of this tale would seem to be in the immense superiority of the "Kowloon Terms" as insurance against dishonesty!

This, at least, is the Chinese view. If the Germans profess to see in this case no evidence of that superior honesty of the English about which the English papers have so much to say—well, we cannot find it in our heart to criticize them for their blindness.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 20th September.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER.

Wong Kam, a lukong, was indicted on a charge of manslaughter. Prisoner pleaded not guilty, and the following jury was empanelled:—A. J. P. Pumfrett (foreman), W. Stormer D. A. Malcolm, G. Morphey, E. Roby, G. Pickering and A. C. Diss.

Sir H. S. Berkeley, K.C., Acting Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, Jr., from the office of the Crown Solicitor, prosecuted, and prisoner was undefended.

The Attorney-General, in laying the facts before the jury, stated that when deceased, who was a hawker, was arrested he was suffering from the very serious complaint known as hernia. The hawker was arrested for obstructing the streets, and it was alleged that about the time of the arrest the constable prodded the deceased about the region of abdomen with his truncheon. This the constable denied, but witnesses for the prosecution would assert that they saw him do it. Deceased was taken to the station, and on arrival there he was discovered to be in considerable pain. He was not confined, but allowed to return to his house, where he was treated by a Chinese doctor, and died some hours afterwards. The post mortem was performed upon him by a European doctor, who stated that the cause of death was strangulation of the hernia. The doctor found no marks of violence or bruises about the region of the abdomen, but there were one or two bruises on the arm.

The Attorney-General then informed his Lordship that he brought the case before the Court because the accused was a constable.

Dr. Shaw, the acting medical officer in charge of the mortuary, stated that death would follow strangulation of the hernia if the strangulation was not relieved by nature or by an operation.

His Lordship drew the attention of the jury to the doctor's evidence, and asked them to bring in a verdict of not guilty against the prisoner.

The jury brought in a verdict accordingly, and the prisoner was discharged.

INDECENT ASSAULT.

Walayat Khan was arraigned on a charge of indecent assault, and the same jurors were empanelled as in the previous case.

After hearing the evidence and His Lordship's directions, the jury returned an unanimous verdict of guilty.

Prisoner was sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment with hard labour.

ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.

Leung Tsan was charged with robbery with violence, and pleaded not guilty. The jurors were the same as in the previous case.

The Attorney-General stated that a Chinese lady, living at that time at 149, Hollywood Road, returned from a party at about 1.30 a.m. and went to bed, omitting as usual to remove her gold hair ornaments. She went to sleep, but was awakened at about three o'clock by someone opening her door and entering her room. The intruder threw pepper in her face, and snatched the gold ornaments from her head. She was greatly alarmed, and made an outcry. Her cries were heard by a lukong who was passing, and he proceeded upstairs to investigate. The prisoner, startled by the cries, dropped the gold ornaments and made a bolt for it. On the stairs he met the lukong, but knocked him down and made tracks. The lukong followed him, and the prisoner was ultimately arrested by an Indian constable. The lukong would state that he never lost sight of the prisoner until his arrest.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and His Lordship sentenced the accused to three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

Tuesday, 21st September.

INDECENT ASSAULT.

Zarif Khan was indicted on a charge of indecent assault, and pleaded not guilty. The following jurors were called:—T. H. G. Brayfield (foreman), F. O. Day, J. O. Hughes, C. J. Schmit, T. Neave, J. Walker and W. Tippet.

Hon. Sir H. S. Berkeley, K.C., Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, Jr., from the office of the Crown Solicitor, prosecuted, and Mr. J. W. Orr, instructed by Mr. Davidson (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings), appeared for the defendant.

The jury, after a retirement of about twenty minutes, returned a verdict of guilty, and His Lordship sentenced the prisoner to fifteen years' imprisonment with hard labour.

Wednesday, 22nd September.

ROBBERY.

Man Ng and Wong Lam were indicted on a charge of robbery. Prisoners pleaded not guilty, and the following jurors were called:—J. R. Boyes (foreman), L. V. Langstein, J. C. Kitzmantl, E. H. Neave, E. A. Long, G. Koenig and C. H. W. Kew.

Mr. C. G. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, Jr., from the office of the Crown Solicitor, prosecuted on behalf of the Attorney-General, while prisoners were not defended.

Mr. Alabaster informed the Court and jury that the prisoners were charged with robbery at Lantau Island on August 13th. On the night of the 12th a prosecutor, who was a grocer, and another, who was a cloth dealer, went to bed in their house. About seven o'clock on the following morning they were awakened by a number of men entering their house, one of whom was the first defendant. The second man remained outside to prevent other people entering, but he was just as much a party to the crime as if he had been inside. The people inside committed a serious assault on the two prosecutors, and then cleared off with everything they could lay hands on. Two fishermen who were sleeping outside heard cries of "save life," and proceeded towards the house of the prosecutors. As they reached the door, the second prisoner, who was outside, threatened to take their lives if they entered. Shortly after this the robbers departed, and went to Dumbell Island. There they were followed by one of the prosecutors, who went and reported the matter to the police, and the two prisoners were arrested on the same morning. Both accused made statements, but he would not say what those statements contained, because the prisoners said they had been extorted from them after they were beaten by the police. Apart from those statements, however, there was ample evidence of identification by which the jury could convict the prisoners.

After the story for the prosecution had been told,

Sergeant Gordon was called, and gave evidence as to the identification of the prisoners at the Central Police Station.

Were you present when the prisoners made statements in the Central charge room?—Yes.

Did you use any violence towards them, or any of them?—I did not.

Did anyone?—Not to my knowledge.

Witness was then questioned by the first defendant:

Is it not a fact that in the first instance I was brought to Hongkong in order to identify some other person?—No, you were brought over under arrest.

Accused—That is not so, my Lord.

Is it not a fact that when I failed to identify anyone another constable had a conversation with you, after which you fisted me on my chest?—No.

Did you not beat me at random, at dusk?—I did not.

The first defendant, in his statement, said that when taken to the Chungchau Police Station, he was asked how many men took part in the robbery. When he said he knew nothing about it he was assaulted to such an extent that he was compelled to admit the charge. After he promised to do so a Chinese constable instructed him how to word his statement, and he followed out the instructions. He was also told that if he went before the magistrate and pleaded guilty

his sentence would not be more than ten days' imprisonment, but if he did not it would be longer.

The second defendant said he was sick on the day of the robbery, and his master gave him \$10 to buy medicine. On his way to purchase it a constable unfortunately saw the \$10 in his pocket and arrested him. When he appeared before the sergeant he was assaulted until he was black and blue all over. When asked where he got the money he said it was his own, and was again assaulted. While being assaulted the sergeant continued saying, "Name some of the robbers. Go ahead; name them." Each time the sergeant said this he prodded the defendant until he ultimately promised to admit the charge. He was taught what to say, and followed his instructions.

The jury, without retiring, returned a verdict of guilty, and each of the prisoners was sentenced to three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

ALLEGED THROWING OF CORROSIVE FLUID.

Li I Tam was arraigned on a charge of throwing a corrosive fluid with intent to burn. The same jurors sat as in the previous case.

Mr. Alabaster stated that the occurrence took place at seven o'clock on the evening of the 8th instant. Prosecutrix knew the prisoner, and owed him \$6, which might supply some motive. She would say that on the evening in question she was walking along Gough Street, and turned off to go down some steps. At the bottom of the steps someone threw vitriol on her back, and on turning round she saw the prisoner, who threw some more on her face. Prisoner then escaped, but shortly afterwards prosecutrix saw him with his sweetheart, and the pair bolted in opposite directions. Subsequently the defendant was arrested.

Defendant, in his statement before the Court, said he did not really know why he was implicated in this affair. Prosecutrix was a prostitute, and prostitutes had generally a lot of enemies. Perhaps one of them did this, or it may have been that one of her sweethearts was his enemy, and told her to accuse him.

After a short retirement the jury unanimously found the accused not guilty, and His Lordship discharged him.

RECEIVING STOLEN GOODS.

Li Wing pleaded not guilty to a charge of receiving stolen goods, and the same jury heard the case.

Mr. Alabaster informed the Court and jury that he could prove by the conduct of the accused that he knew the goods in question were stolen. He was not bound to explain how he got the property, but if he made a statement, and in that statement told lies, the jury could infer from that that he knew perfectly well the goods were stolen. The eight cases in question were stored in a godown in Sutherland Street at the rear of the Ko Shing Theatre. On July 5th, about five o'clock in the evening, the prisoner was in charge of a party of coolies who were carrying these cases. He approached a lighterman near the new western market, gave him a document directed to a firm in Macao, and caused the goods to be put on board. At Macao the prisoner went with a letter and a party of coolies to claim the goods, but as the letter was not chopped the lighterman refused to hand over the goods. A quarrel followed, and the Macao police arrested the accused. At the Magistracy the prisoner admitted that he lived behind the Ko Shing Theatre, and that he went to Macao. His reason for going there, he said, was to find his younger brother. His mother had written him telling him that his grandmother's bones were about to be removed, and stating that she would like him and his younger brother to be present. In Macao the prisoner said he met a man who became ill in the street, gave him a document, and asked him to go and claim the goods. He denied causing the goods to be put on board for shipment to Macao.

Prisoner elected to give evidence, and, on being sworn, stated that while in Macao he met an old man whom he had formerly met in a tea-house. This man asked him if he would be good enough and obliging enough to go to a wharf and get some goods for him. He was to call out "Uncle Kau" twice, and then a man in a grey water-gauze jacket would appear. Prisoner was to hand a letter to this man, but when he

arrived at the wharf he was arrested by the police. Witness asked the constable why he was arrested. The constable told him to "shut up," and he would hear all about it when he got to the station. "How can people accuse a hard-working man like me of committing an offence of this nature?" asked the witness, "when I have not got time to go into the street?"

In cross-examination accused said he did not write a letter instead of going to Macao, because he was not sure that it would reach its destination. Further he could not write, and would not ask anyone to do it for him, as it would be too much of a favour.

Would it be more of a favour than asking your master for the loan of \$3?

On the question being put the interpreter announced that the accused was talking at random about his master's business being a dye-shop.

Mr. Alabaster—It doesn't matter, leave it at that! (To accused)—Did you go to the wharf at Macao alone?—Yes.

You did not take any coolies with you?—No. If I had the police could have called them to bear witness against me.

Another witness, a brother of the accused, was questioned concerning certain statements he had made before the Magistrate.

On being pressed regarding one of his statements, the prisoner passed a remark in Chinese which the interpreter translated. It was, "If you did say so, stick to it."

The jury found the prisoner guilty, and his Lordship sentenced him to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

Thursday, September 23rd.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS
PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

EXTRADITION PROCEDURE: A PRISONER DISCHARGED.

His Lordship delivered his decision in the case in which the Captain-Superintendent of Police was called upon to show cause why Sun A Wan, at present detained in Victoria Jail, should not be delivered from custody.

Mr. M. W. Slade, who was instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Sing, made the application for *habeas corpus*, and Mr. C. G. Alabaster, who was instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, from the office of the Crown Solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Acting Attorney-General to show cause.

His Lordship said he was sorry in this case to have again to pick a hole in the procedure followed in extradition cases, but he was bound to. On the three important points raised the prisoner was entitled to his discharge on *habeas corpus*. Two of the points appeared to be very formal, but one of them seemed to His Lordship to go down to the very roots of the administration of justice. A magistrate had no right, nor had any judge, to delay justice. When he had made up his mind, he was bound in duty to deliver his judgment. This, of course, could not be dealt with in any formal way; it was left entirely to the judicial discretion of a judge or magistrate. There was in France a well-known offence which was called denial of justice, but such an offence was very difficult to prove. In this case he had a letter before him in which it was distinctly stated by the Crown Solicitor that the magistrate had made up his mind. The magistrate stated that he was not prepared to convict on the first trial, as there was only one witness who identified the prisoner as taking part in the robbery. Yet the prisoner, thereupon becoming entitled to his discharge, was brought up on the 4th and remanded again till the 10th. Apparently the second remand was in order that another warrant should be served upon this man. He thought there was a tendency to complaisance in the administration of the law of extradition, and certainly the second warrant could have been undoubtedly executed on this prisoner, and he would not then have been entitled to his discharge. Being entitled to his discharge meant being entitled to be free, and he was not free in prison. The other point was that the magistrate was not sitting in Court. This again appeared to be a very technical point, though it was certainly an important one. A magistrate had both minis-

terial and magisterial duties to perform, and the magisterial functions could not be performed anywhere else except in Court. In taking the preliminary inquiry there were two points; first, the ministerial taking of evidence, and secondly, the magisterial decision as to whether the magistrate should commit. In an extradition case the last duty laid upon the magistrate was magisterial, and no magisterial or judicial functions could be performed out of Court. Without the proclamation proclaiming a certain place to be a Court, no place was a Court, and this could be decided by the simple fact of how the offence of contempt of court could be committed. It could not be committed in the verandah of a prison, or perhaps in the street. He had been referred to the Magistrates' Ordinance, two sections of which dealt with the place or building in which a magistrate sat. In both places the reference to a court itself dealt entirely with a Court. Therefore he was of opinion that of the steps, certainly the last one taken was not in Court at all, and that vitiated the whole of the proceeding and entitled the prisoner to his discharge.

Mr. Potter, on behalf of Mr. Slade, asked that the prisoner be discharged without being brought formally before the Court.

An order was accordingly made for the discharge of the prisoner.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

ALLEGED PIRACY.

Leung Shiu and Lai Fong were indicted on charges of piracy and receiving pirated goods. Prisoners pleaded not guilty, and the following jury was empanelled:—E. M. Hazeland (foreman), J. J. Lossius, S. E. da Luz, J. Rodger, W. Schmidt, F. F. Barretto and W. L. Leask.

Sir H. S. Berkeley, K.C., Acting Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted, and Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Mr. M. Reader Harris (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), appeared for the first defendant. The second was not represented.

Mr. Potter said he wished to call his Lordship's attention to the indictment, which contained six counts. The first was piracy; the second, accessory before the fact; the third, receiving pirated goods; the fourth, robbery on the sea; the fifth, accessory before the fact of this robbery; and the sixth, the ordinary charge of receiving. It was a well-known and established rule that where there was more than one felony on one indictment the prosecution should elect as to what charge they would proceed with, because it would be obviously embarrassing to the defence if the prosecution were allowed to add as many felonies as they liked. In point of law they were quite entitled to add twenty felonies, but in point of fact the presiding judge invariably compelled the prosecution to state on which charge they would proceed, and Counsel asked his Lordship to do so in this case.

His Lordship—I understand these to be different ways of looking at the same facts?

Mr. Potter—Robbery on the sea and piracy cannot be the same thing, because the prosecution would be obviously embarrassing us by putting in the same thing under different counts.

His Lordship—It would be very embarrassing if you had to meet two sets of facts, but the facts are the same. Between piracy on the high seas and robbery on the sea there is no difference.

Mr. Potter—There is a very substantial difference. If there is any distinction at all between piracy and robbery on the sea, the offence will be entirely different.

His Lordship—The offence is only the facts that occurred.

Mr. Potter—But the two charges are entirely different.

His Lordship—The facts are the same.

Mr. Potter—That cannot be so. The prosecution have two counts; one of being accessory before the fact, and one of piracy. To be an accessory before the fact a man must have been absent; to be a pirate he must have been present. Your Lordship will notice that they have indicted the same man as an accessory and as a pirate. The whole point of my objection is this: if the prosecution wish to establish these six counts they must of necessity bring forward

a different class of evidence on every count.

His Lordship—I see a little shadow of difference between the actual crime and the accessory before the fact.

Mr. Potter—Apparently there is a difference between piracy and robbery at sea. If there is, the difference is this: The Crown must prove that these mariners were put in fear, and by reason of that fear the goods were taken, and taken against the mariners' will: that is piracy. Robbery at sea has nothing to do with putting mariners in fear of their lives, and that must embarrass the defence.

His Lordship—It seems to me that a simple way is to charge them with robbery within the waters of the Colony.

The Attorney-General—I will do that to save time, but I am not bound to. I will make the charges "robbery in the waters of the Colony, and receiving stolen goods," and will enter a *nolle prosequi* as to the other charges.

The Attorney-General then informed the Court and jury that the charge was brought under sub-section 2 of section 31 of Ordinance 5 of 1865, robbery by two or more persons armed.

His Lordship—Is not there any clause in this Ordinance about Admiralty jurisdiction?

The Attorney-General—I don't think there is in this larceny Ordinance. We are not dealing with an offence within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty. Proceeding, the Attorney-General said the story the jurors would hear related by witnesses was one which showed a carefully, coolly-planned attack upon a junk, skilfully executed and safely accomplished. That the prisoners had been subsequently brought before the Court was due to the activity, the intelligence and the skill of the police in handling the charge after the facts which were brought to their knowledge, which was not for several days after the offence was committed. The facts shortly were as follows: On the 18th July last a junk named the *San Fuk Hop* left Hongkong harbour for Suitung with a large cargo on board, valued at about \$14,000. She left the harbour about 3.30 in the afternoon and reached Chungshan or Dumbbell Island, about 6 or 7 p.m. on the same day. There being then no wind, she anchored some short distance off the island. She had on board a crew of thirteen men, including an accountant who had charge of the cargo on behalf of the owners thereof. About nine o'clock that night the people on the junk heard two blasts of the whistle of a steam launch. The launch next ran alongside, and three men boarded the junk. One or more of them informed the accountant, whom they came across first of all, that they were officers of the law, and demanded to see his permit for carrying arms. As a matter of fact, in the cargo of the junk there were four revolvers, 20 rounds of ammunition, and a number of pounds of powder. The accountant said he had a permit, and turned to get it. As soon as he turned, however, a bag was thrown over his head, and he was bundled into a sort of cabin. Four or five of the crew were put in with him, and the place was fastened up. The next thing he became aware of was the trampling of many feet on the deck above him, then the sound of the anchor being hauled up, and after that the movement of the junk through the water, which continued for some hours. Then followed the rattling of a chain and the anchoring of the junk. After many hours the anchor was hoisted again, and the junk sailed away, and ultimately, after several days' confinement in this cabin, where he and the other people were from time to time fed by rice being let down, there was a bump and jolt, and subsequently they were let out to find that they were stranded on a sandbank miles down the coast. That was all the accountant could tell, and the history was taken up later when the police made investigations. The accountant was only one of the thirteen on board the junk who could be called as a witness. The others were dispersed over all parts of China, and had not returned to the Colony. The accountant, however, made a complaint to the Chinese Authorities and in due course he was forwarded on to Hongkong, where information was laid with the police, and inquiries were set afoot. The result of those inquiries led to the arrest of the two prisoners in Hongkong, but that there were a good many others engaged in this bold, daring and successful robbery the

jury would have no doubt at all when they heard the evidence. With coolness and impudence the robbers brought the junk into the harbour, with the crew in the hold, and shipped the goods to Macao and Wuchow. The first prisoner admitted shipping the goods, but said he was only a broker in the transaction. The Attorney-General asked the jury to investigate the case with great care, because it was a very serious matter indeed that an offence such as this could have been committed here. He was sure that hardly a person in the room would believe that such a thing could have happened in these days, and in our waters. It appeared to be incredible. He asked the jury to investigate the case thoroughly, so that if the prisoners were guilty they would not escape, while, at the same time, if they were innocent, they would be allowed to go free.

After evidence had been called the hearing was adjourned.

Friday, 24th September.

Mr. Potter, in opening the defence for the first defendant, submitted that there was no evidence of robbery. Even according to the evidence for the prosecution, the first defendant was in Hongkong at the date and time when the robbery was committed at Cheungchau. There was no evidence of accessory before the fact, as active encouragement must be proved. Neither was there evidence of receiving unless guilty knowledge was proved by the prosecution, and this had not been done. Counsel then commented generally on the open manner in which the first defendant carried through the transaction, and on the lack of evidence of guilty knowledge.

After hearing the evidence of the prisoners, the addresses of Counsel, and the direction of His Lordship, the jury found the first prisoner not guilty on all charges. The second man was found guilty of receiving stolen goods, and His Lordship sentenced him to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

THE "HABEUS CORPUS" CASE.

Referring to the case in which he had given judgment yesterday, His Lordship said the same order as to costs would be made as in the last case.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I am instructed to state that the Crown have had no notice of the application. Will you permit it to be argued?

His Lordship—It was precisely the same order as in the last *habeus corpus* case.

Mr. Potter—The prisoner was charged on the 3rd June.

His Lordship—I cannot go into details.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I submit you should not make an order without the Attorney-General being heard.

His Lordship—I have no objection.

Sir Henry Berkeley—Will you fix a date?

His Lordship—The whole point was gone into very fully.

Sir Henry Berkeley—I am instructed to ask that the Crown will have an opportunity of being heard.

His Lordship—Better do it to-day.

Sir Henry Berkeley—To-day?

His Lordship—Yes. There is really nothing—

Sir Henry Berkeley—I don't know. I am only instructed to make the application to be heard.

His Lordship—I think the same order should be made as in the last case. If you wish to move—

Sir Henry Berkeley—The Attorney-General will move.

His Lordship said the application could be heard that day.

Mr. Alabaster, in the afternoon, stated that the proceedings were taken against the Captain Superintendent of Police, but there was nothing whatever in His Lordship's judgment to suggest that there was anything wrong in his action. Counsel was instructed to say that the Magistrate felt rather hurt at what was, he thought, only a slip in the wording of His Lordship's judgment.

His Lordship—There are a great many slips.

Mr. Alabaster quoted from the judgment, "Apparently the second remand was in order that another warrant should be served on this man. I think there is a tendency to complaisance in administering the law of extradition." Counsel thought that sentence might be taken out without altering the sense in any way. The other warrant was ready.

His Lordship said it was not reported ready. He was sorry if the Magistrate felt hurt, but these slips would occur. As he understood the case the Crown Solicitor wrote and said the prisoner would be discharged next week. He was not discharged, but was remanded.

Mr. Alabaster said it was stated in Mr. Denny's affidavit that the other warrant was ready and could have been served.

His Lordship—Why wasn't it?

Mr. Alabaster understood that it was to prevent witnesses in the second case from seeing the prisoner.

His Lordship said what he meant to say was, as he understood the case when it was argued, that the remand was ordered because the other case was not ready to go on.

Mr. Potter said if his Lordship intended to hear argument he would ask for an adjournment, as he knew neither the law nor the facts in the case.

His Lordship said the point was that the prisoner really got off on a technical ground. He could have been arrested then and there if the warrant could have been served.

Further argument will be heard in Chambers next week.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (PUISNE JUDGE).

COLONIAL TREASURY CLAIMS.

Actions for the recovery of Crown rent were brought by the Colonial Treasurer against the following for the amount specified:—Si. Sau Mui, \$55.44; Wong Tui Po, \$18.36; Wong Lau Po and others, \$42.84; Wong Fuk Nin and U Kun Wa, \$25.50; Wong Mui Sam, \$46.92; and Tang Kam Chi, \$40.80.

In each claim judgment was entered for plaintiff.

ALLEGED WRONGFUL DISMISSAL.

A case was mentioned in which Captain W. Cooper claimed from the Sze Yap Steamship Co. the sum of \$858.33 as damages for wrongful dismissal.

The hearing was fixed for Friday next.

SHIPPING NOTES.

The *Tenyo-maru* on her last trip north from Hongkong reported by wireless telegraphy that the South American liner *Asia* was lying off Hongkong owing to a strike among her engineers.

In spite of the depression prevailing among the American liners, the O.S.K. steamer *Tacoma-maru*, which arrived at Yokohama last week on her first homeward voyage, carried 915 tons of cargo, of which 371 tons were landed here. She had on board one cabin and 29 steerage passengers.

After having discharged 10,500 bales of hemp and a shipment of silk valued at P150,000, the British steamer *Oceano* of the Weir line is on her way to Manila from Tacoma, Wash., with a cargo of 2,800,000 feet of lumber. Before entering Puget Sound Captain Davies slipped on a wet deck and sustained a severely sprained ankle.

An Indian contemporary commenting on the announcement that with the s.s. *Arabia* leaving Bombay on the 23rd October luncheon and late dinner shall be served in the second saloon in all the Company's steamers, both mail and intermediate, says:—This announcement will cause widespread satisfaction among those passengers who are in the habit of travelling second-class either by preference or necessity. The consideration shown to second-class passengers by the Company has never in any other respect left anything to be desired, but the strange composite meal

served up about six in the evening in lieu of dinner was a legitimate source of continual grumbling. The P. & O. have done well in meeting and redressing this long-standing grievance. It is not exactly a case of self-interest with them, for if they are going to make the second-class passenger so happy and comfortable, where are they going to get their first-class passengers? The answer is that the rival liners have not ceased to get first-class passengers and by the removal of this grievance, the P. & O. can reasonably expect to benefit in the long run.

THE PAN-ANGLICAN THANK-OFFERING.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE £35,000 ALLOTTED TO CHINA.

The committee have resolved to appropriate the greater portion of this sum for the creation and strengthening of educational forces in important strategic centres. Four of these have been chosen:—

- (a) An Anglican hostel in connection with the educational college at Chentu, in the regions in which Bishop Cassels has his jurisdiction... £5,000
- (b) A college, or hostel, for higher education in the province of Fukien... 5,000
- (c) A hostel, in connection with the educational college at Hankow in the jurisdiction of Bishop Roots... 5,000
- (d) A college for higher education in Peking, in the jurisdiction of Bishop Scott... 5,000
- (e) A college, or hostel, for higher education in Canton, in the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Victoria... 3,000
- (f) In the diocese of Chekiang for a divinity school... 1,000
- (g) For the promotion of Christian literature under the control of the Bishops in China... 1,000

The following sums are awarded for educational work generally, with the special hope that the demands of women's work will be remembered:—

- (h) In the diocese of Chekiang... £2,000
- (i) " " Shantung... 2,000
- (k) " " Western China... 1,000
- (l) " " Fukien... 1,000
- (m) " " Honan... 1,000
- (n) " " Hunan... 1,000
- (o) " " North China... 1,000
- (p) " " Victoria (Hongkong)... 1,000

The result is that of the seven English dioceses three receive £6,000 each—viz., North China, Western China, and Fukien; Victoria (Hongkong) receives £4,000; Chekiang, £3,000; Shantung (which will benefit by the Peking grant), £2,000; Hunan (a new sphere), £1,000; the American diocese of Hankow receives £5,000, as a great strategic centre; and the new Canadian diocese of Honan, £1,000. The remaining £1,000 is for literature.

AEROPLANES FOR SIAM.

Since the appearance of their advertisement re flying machines the Bangkok Dock Co., Ltd., have had a number of inquiries, including several from Siamese sources. There seems, however, to be a general disposition to wait for someone else to place a definite order. It is expected that the first order will quickly be followed by several others. One intending purchaser seriously agreed to buy an aeroplane on condition that a four-seater was supplied. The answer received was evidently disappointing. Owing to the great demand in Europe, a premium will have to be paid for rapid delivery, but those who will be content to receive their airships within, say, twelve months will not be called upon for any increase in the advertised price.—*Bangkok Times*.

CHARTERED BANK DIVIDEND.

The Manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China kindly informs as that he received from the London Office yesterday a telegram advising that an interim dividend has been declared for the past half-year to 30th June, 1909, at 13 per cent. per annum, free of income tax.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AND THE IMPORT TAX.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Hongkong, 17th Sept., 1909.

SIR,—The Council Meeting held yesterday for the purposes of passing the second reading of the Liquor Bill brought out the fact that some at least of the unofficial members had been driven into supporting it, notwithstanding their great objection to altering the present conditions of the freedom of the port, and it would appear that had they but known the Government intended to provide for the proper collection of same, they would not have supported it.

Everyone must appreciate that it is necessary for the Government to have powers to make the law effective, and it is absolutely childish to raise these quibbles.

What the unofficials can now see is, that they have been nicely drawn by the Government. They congratulated themselves on having upset the first proposal of increased licence fees, and now when they find the imposition of duties necessitates all the paraphernalia of a Customs House they squirm, and make excuses for having agreed to the measure at all.

I am glad to note their change of front, as I am absolutely against the tax; it upsets the free import or export of the port, and this I consider is of the greatest importance to the Colony.

I trust this will not be the thin end of the wedge for further taxation of commodities as necessity requires, but that an easier, cheaper and a more equitable tax will be imposed by increasing the present property taxes.

It is peculiar that the only argument against the latter is that so many people hold property, bought at very high and inflated prices, and an increase of taxes might weigh heavily upon them. Are these particular people to be protected by legislation? What about holders of Dock shares bought at \$340? Haven't they just as much right to assistance because they made an unfortunate deal?

The argument in favour of an increase of taxes on property is that everyone has to pay his fair proportion for the upkeep of the Colony, the whole total collected would be available, and the free intercourse of trade in the Colony would remain intact.

I respectfully submit that H. E. the Governor is in error in stating that the community through their representatives are agreeable to the import tax. The community are practically unrepresented on the Council, and if a poll were taken the Government would soon find out the opinion of the community, and not of a few largely interested parties.—Yours, &c.,

IMPARTIAL.

THE NEW LIQUOR DUTIES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—You state in to-day's issue that the duty on Spirits of Wine and Arrack is \$3.00 per gallon. Should this not be a mistake? The value of Arrack is \$0.50 per gallon only, and I hardly believe that the Government will impose 600 per cent. duty on the value.—Yours faithfully,

KARL BRANDES.

[The rate of duty was correctly printed.—ED.]

THE LIQUOR TAX.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Hongkong, September 18th.

SIR,—“The Ordinance to provide for the collection of duties upon Intoxicating Liquors” received the assent of His Excellency the Governor late in the evening of yesterday, and I have received the personal assurance of the Colonial Secretary that from that moment it was operative.

If this is so, the reported seizures of native wine made in the early hours of this morning are possibly in order, but as the Government

Gazette was positively unobtainable until 3 p.m. to-day, and as by means of the *Gazette* only were the public told what the law now is, I maintain that any obstructive measures taken by the authorities before this date and time were illegal.

In a former letter to the Press I criticised the Council Meeting in a more or less facetious spirit.

Many technical absurdities have, thanks to the attitude of Mr. Hewett, disappeared, but there are still amendments to be made. In first dealing with the Bill the Authorities should have approached some five of the men most interested in, and in contact with, the trade, and these should have been representative of all sections.

I understand that, officially, two men only were consulted, and if their advice has been followed the result is not flattering to their brilliancy, nor have they been impartial.

Lest I am misunderstood, let me explain that my interest in the “trade” of the Colony, expressed in figures, amounts to some £1,000 monthly, nominally it is worth much more.

My criticism, however, is honest and not competitive, and is warranted by a life-long connection with my work and a specialized study of the conditions in Far Eastern markets.

I have no axe to grind, but I ask for greater consideration for the welfare of the retailers and less influential firms, who in the aggregate are, after all, of more importance than two or three larger ones.

I fully recognise that many irritating points in the Bill will be removed in time, but I would call attention to the following:—

Notification 570. Paragraph 7, dealing with rates for moving and storing dutiable liquors. It was distinctly promised that no storage charge should be made.

Notification 571. Paragraph 7. The furnishing of this return is impracticable. There is opportunity for abuse, and I think the Council are overstepping their powers to ask for an account of sales.

I find no fault with the duties *per se*, but they are not simple enough and are inconsistent.

Every practical man will unhesitatingly declare that the fairest way to tax spirits is on the proof gallonage. This favours no one and its world-wide adoption declares its utility.

If I import 50 cases whisky at 17 u.p., I have approximately 100 gallons containing 83 gallons proof-spirit, and on this 83 gallons I pay duty, say, at \$1 per gallon, equal to \$83. I sell the whisky at \$15 per case, and so receive \$750—less \$83, equals \$667.

If I import 100 gallons in bulk at proof strength, I pay \$100 duty, but as this will require 21 gallons of water to reduce it to 17, u.p., I have actually the equivalent of 60½ cases.

Selling these also at \$15 per case, I receive \$907.75 less the \$100 tax=\$807.75. The tax on proof gallonage would not alter the existing state of affairs, since the bigger firms usually import in bulk, the smaller in case, and the difference shown has always been in favour of the local bottlers.

The original price of the whisky in bottle or bulk does not affect this question, but I am prepared at any time to prove that locally bottled spirits give a bigger profit than imported bottled spirits.

Under the present law the importers of Home bottled spirits at usual drinking strengths have actually to pay duty on water. There are other points, but none can modify my contention. For instance: It is mere twaddle to talk of encouraging local bottling, since a machine coolie can bottle nearly 100 cases daily, and usually the consumer gets better value on Home bottled goods than on locally bottled goods. This, also, I am prepared to prove, and any apparent advantage a less duty would give bottled goods over bulk is more than equalized by the extra cost, freight, etc.

There is no good reason why champagne should pay a higher tax than other sparkling wines, though in this case good will be done, and all the so-called champagnes improperly labelled as such will now change their name to Saumur, etc., labelling the good wines of this place as they have of Eperney.

“Port, Sherry, Madeira, 1.80 per gallon.” Why not also Marsala, and Malvasia and a dozen others? I'll wager the yearly revenue

from Madeira will not pay one month's salary of a revenue officer.

What is to prevent port being labelled “Muscatel” and entering under the \$1.20 duty? Is it the Government Analyst who is to say where Port ends and Muscatel begins? As he will have to define many terms he had better adopt the “trade” definitions right away, or he will have a busy time. Witness the “What is Whisky?” controversy. And are the Revenue officers such experts that they will know at what rate to tax wines labelled “Amontillado,” “Manzanilla,” “Soleia”?

If the Government had considered the physical welfare of the Colony, they would have given no incentive to purchase cheap liquors, and morals and revenue would be less likely to suffer.

Is it known that spirits of wine mean rectified spirits of the strength of not less than 43 degrees above proof? A little water and burnt sugar to this and you have the ingredients of China-made brandy, which gives the wily compounder a clear \$1.20 per case profit on duty alone, apart from his profit on the reducing part of his manufacture.

Part 3, Clause 22, is going to be troublesome; there will be more leakage out of the warehouse than in.

Part 4, Clause 23. When your legislators deal with the distillery details they come to the fine art of Revenue work!

Part 2, Clause 12. “Marked by stencil or otherwise.” If not by stencil how else than otherwise? Yet there was a five minutes' argument on the point!

Part 6, Clause 29. Do you think any officer will ever be able to explain the difference in the sub-sections (a) and (b)?

Part 10, Clause 55, “to determine the quality of native wines and spirits, the materials to be used therein, and the branding and labelling of such.” Ye Gods! Poor analyst! A threat to appoint any erring officer to carry out these possible regulations would absolutely ensure efficiency. Are duties payable at strength at which they enter bond? If so immediate tests in every case will be necessary, otherwise it will not be so impossible for a native spirit at 40 per cent. duty \$1.00, to, shall we say evaporate to 39 per cent., duty 40 cents, by the morning!

It is a misfortune that the amendment to give the unofficial members an opportunity to criticise future contemplated regulations was lost. The necessity for this has been so fully proved—and the unfitness of the compilers. By the by, Mr. Murray Stewart's tremulous solicitude lest the civilian friend should too often be a canteen guest nearly upset the able appeal of the C. O. for a duty rebate for the army and navy; but the rebate should certainly be allowed and in full.

Where was the Colonial Secretary's point that if the men considered themselves underpaid they should appeal to the Home Government, when the question was only that they were not overpaid and contentment would hardly hold if their expenses were increased by the taxes?

The object of the tax is laudable, and its application not objectionable, but its working will cause the Government heaps more trouble than they anticipate, and its enforcement will undoubtedly entail friction.

My feeling is simply that the Bill might have been fully prepared in a more business-like way, and might have been presented in a more complete and less contentious manner. The provisions for its smooth working might have been more perfect, and a trained man or men from Home should have been here to facilitate things.

That it will cause considerable inconvenience is natural and not wholly unavoidable, but it will bear most heavily on our poorer friends and the small trader, for the retailer who charges his customers only exactly the extra cost of the duty (and they will object to pay more), and receives his money in small change, will lose some 5 per cent. to 8 per cent. on exchange, and the small trader will find he cannot so easily compete with the large firms.

The feverish anxiety of the Council to rush the Bill through was undignified and unnecessary. Many simple precautions could have been taken to prevent too large stocks arriving.

To one with the gift of drawing I would suggest a cartoon in which the Colony shall be a football field, the Ball shall represent the Bill kicked hither and thither by teams in the form of Council Members and Conflicting Interests generally mixed, and His Excellency shall be the inept referee. It should become historical and will certainly be applicable for some time.—Faithfully yours.

CHARLES E. GARNER.
(Messrs. Garner, Quelch & Co., Shanghai.)

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

DEAR EDITOR,—I am not clever, like Mr. Garner, but I thought if I asked you some questions you would perhaps print my letter. I asked Daddy and he couldn't tell me.

Why didn't the Government ask Mr. Garner to make the new law all by himself? It seems so silly to have made such a mess of it when he could have done it so easily and so much better. The two men who tried to help must feel beastly sick with themselves, if they have seen Mr. Garner's letter.

What does Mr. Garner mean when he says his interest in the "trade" of the Colony amounts to £1,000 in a month, and a little while after he says he has no axe to grind? Has he finished them all? I feel quite sorry for him. What is Mr. Garner? Daddy says he's a traveller. I thought he sold whisky. Anyhow I think he's awfully clever, don't you? He must be a very kind man, too, because he thinks so much of other people, especially the small shops who sell whisky. Perhaps he's a philanthropist. I think it's awfully kind of the Shanghai people to let Mr. Garner come down to Hongkong to teach the Governor and everybody how to make the laws, and I am sure they must thank him very much. I wonder when he's going back?—Yours truly,

TOMMY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

SIR,—To disprove his opening sentence your correspondent "Tommy" should be more critical and less funny; and he might have been fair.

Why single one out as trying to tell the Government what to do when so many have also given their views?

The "two men who tried to help" are certainly not affected, as "Tommy" suggests. If it is their advice that has been followed—well, is it brilliant? And I think I have proved that the larger wine firms who have bottling establishments have now a greater advantage over spirit imported in bottle than before.

My interests in the liquor trade of the Colony would not have been affected more than that of other merchants if the scale of world-wide adoption been applied here; my criticism, however, has been general, and looked at from a broad view; also, I have no business with the smaller importer, whose interests I defended, so I repeat I was grinding no axe of my own.

As to who I am, inquisitive Tommy, I refer you to the Hong List, and shall be glad to elaborate that information if you will give me your name.

I regret I must to-day leave for Shanghai, but if any fair critic wishes to discuss any point on which we differ and will not hide himself under a *nom de plume* I shall be happy to deal further with the matter when I return next month.—Faithfully yours,

CHARLES E. GARNER.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

SIR,—Would it be called impertinence on any one's part if the following deductions were to be published in your valued paper?

The Colony has for the last few weeks been intensely interested in the Liquor question, and the varied opinions of experts or others, consumers and producers, have disclosed remarkable facts which may be not only interesting but astounding to the so-called "Friends of China," who are so solicitous for the welfare of its inhabitants. In the first place, in the discussions at the Legislative Council it was stated that a revenue of seven to eight hundred thou-

sand dollars annually can be raised by taxing liquors only within an area of about 350 square miles. The greater proportion of the revenue being collected within a tenth part of the area. What then will be the aggregate value of the spirits and liquors imported into Hongkong? Assuming that the taxation on liquor is about 40 per cent. *ad valorem* and the revenue seven or eight lakhs of dollars, a calculation of the total value of the intoxicating liquor annually consumed in the Colony gives us a figure in the neighbourhood of \$2,000,000. Taking a mean average of \$2½ as the cost per gallon we find that the consumption amounts to between 800,000 and 900,000 gallons a year for a population of about 350,000—or about 2½ gallons per head. If these figures approximately represent the position as regards intoxicating liquors to-day, what will the consumption amount to when the Chinese are entirely deprived of opium?

According to the able report prepared by Mr. Clementi less than two per cent. of the Chinese population of the Colony are opium smokers. The average cost of opium per head therefore works out at 15 to 20 cents. But, notwithstanding this high percentage of cost as compared with that of alcohol, there is not a single smoker who has been reduced to extreme poverty or has even been hauled up before "His Honour" and given free-quarters at His Majesty's Sanatorium in Hollywood Road.

En passant, I may point out that the figures arrived at by Mr. Clementi are almost identical with those arrived at thirty years ago, when a similar agitation took place. Though there has been a large increase in the value of opium, yet its rate of consumption has been a constant figure during these thirty years.

Now, Sir, reflecting on these facts, will not every reasonable person arrive at the conclusion that it is nothing short of sheer cant and rank hypocrisy to shut our eyes to the fact that the mischief that has been done in Parliament by the "Friends of China" is and will be the cause of the ruination of our beautiful Colony? At no distant date living in Hongkong will not only be extremely expensive, but intolerable; for with the gradual abolition of opium there will come an increasing consumption of liquor (in spite of the duties) which will necessitate the building of more lunatic asylums, goals, and reformatories, and call for more policemen to keep the peace of the place. All this, Sir, means money: whence is it to come from? The ratepayer. Poor ratepayer! Are not these facts palpable truths?

Should it not be an object lesson to our legislators at Home who, though avowedly free-traders, have by their anti-opium policy not only opened the way to an increasing demand for alcoholic stimulants with all their attendant evils in the Colony, but have driven the Colonial Government to adopt an economic policy diametrically opposed to their views.—Yours,

D.S.G.

ST. ANDREW'S, KOWLOON.

INDUCTION OF THE NEW INCUMBENT.

On Sunday morning the institution of the Rev. H. O. Spink to the charge of St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, took place. There was a large congregation to witness the induction ceremony, which was conducted by his Lordship the Right Reverend Dr. Lander, the Bishop of Victoria, and the clergy present were the Revs. E. J. Barnett, G. A. Bunbury and A. D. Stewart. His Lordship preached the sermon, in the course of which he said that they were gathered together that morning to institute their new chaplain. The Rev. H. O. Spink came to them with an excellent record. Educated in a public school he had had the advantages of a business training in London, then he graduated at Durham University with first class theological honours, and for the last five years he had been working with much acceptance and manifest blessing in two of the most important parishes in the Diocese of Liverpool. He had come to work in Kowloon because he believed that God had called him to do so, and that morning he (His Lordship) desired to give him and the congregation as well a watchword and a motto.

It was to be found in the 11th Chapter of St. Mark's Gospel at the 22nd verse—"Have faith in God." The Bishop then discoursed on this text, saying that they applied to all phases of life. The grand antidote to discouragement and to being down-hearted was to have faith in God. There in Kowloon they had open before them great opportunities. In that part of the vineyard of God they had perhaps one of the most beautiful churches in the Far East, equipped in every way and now also supplied with a well-appointed Vicarage House. He rejoiced that there was here a nucleus of zealous-hearted Church people who desired to further the Kingdom of God in that place, and that surrounding the Church there were British speaking people who were far away from Home, and who by that very fact needed a shepherd to guide them and who would respond; he was persuaded, to sympathetic brotherly appeal. This set before them a great door of opportunity, but it was not without its difficulties. Nothing that was worth doing in life was without difficulties. There were difficulties from the very smallness of the British community. In their Home parishes the people had generally the choice of many places of worship. If their tastes were what was called High Anglican they could generally find a Church which would suit them, or if their tastes were in the other way they could also have them satisfied. It was not so here. There was but that one Protestant place of worship to which all who desired on this side of the harbour must come, and therefore it was obvious that in the congregation there were bound to be diversities of thought. There would be some who would like one form of service and some who would like another. It was absolutely impossible for any man to please all people. A man must go where God led him and must exercise his own conscience and do what he thought to be right. Then all right-thinking people would rally round him. And there were other difficulties in any Colonial place. There were the influences of the non-Christian atmosphere in which people lived. It was disappointing, was it not, to find that the Lord's Day in the East was much more like a holiday than a holy day, to find that too many altogether disregarded the house of God? These things were depressing and saddening to any minister of the Gospel, so that he needed to hear the voice of Jesus saying to him "Have faith in God." That was the message, too, to those of the congregation. He thanked God that they had been able to keep together as they had during those eight months that they had been without a shepherd, and he asked, and knew that he would not ask in vain, for their cordial support of the new minister. Would they be loyal to him and loyal to their Church? Would they give him their forbearance? For, as he had said, it was impossible for him to please all. He was certain to make mistakes. It had been well said that the man who made mistakes seldom made anything else. But he asked above all that they would give him their prayers not only in that institution service but also in their homes. But after all the blessing which was to attend that church did not depend upon their new chaplain, it depended upon no amount of parochial organisation or financial support. It depended upon God Himself. Let them look up to Him then, and in the work of the Church they would have faith in God.

At the close of the ordinary service the Vicar-elect was accompanied to the chancel by Mr. Packham, vestryman, who formally presented him to his Lordship. Mr. Spink then made the usual declaration assenting to the Thirty-nine Articles and the Book of Common Prayer and subscribed the oath of allegiance to His Majesty the King and the oath of canonical obedience to the Bishop of the Diocese. This was followed by prayers, and his Lordship placing his hand on the head of the Vicar inducted him to the charge of the church and congregation. The service closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

Mr. G. H. Scidmore, late American Consul at Nagasaki, is shortly to be transferred from Kobe to take charge of the American Consulate-General at Seoul. His successor at Kobe has not yet been appointed.

THE INTERPORT CARNIVAL

SUCCESSFUL OPENING DAY.

The annual aquatic sports meeting of the Victoria Recreation Club for 1909, opened on the 23rd inst., and to be continued 24th and 25th, is a memorable one, for it marks the first occasion on which an interport swimming team has visited the Colony. The opening took place under most auspicious circumstances. The weather was all that could be desired, the heat of the sun being tempered by a light screen of clouds, while the swimmers were favoured with a slack tide and water upon which there was scarcely a ripple. Mr. C. Lesbirel, the V.R.C. steward, had supervised the decoration of the Club House with flags, and had also made the most of the space available for the accommodation of spectators by the erection of galleries. In addition to these a lighter had been made fast alongside the bath, and while it enclosed the bath it afforded ample sitting accommodation. The officials were kept busy throughout the day, the excellent handicapping in the local events being responsible for some very close finishes, which necessitated the judges keeping their eyes very wide open. The sport throughout was excellent, and the large attendance of spectators boisterously manifested its appreciation of the many gallant bids for honours. It goes without saying that the greatest interest centred in the interport championships. The hundred yards, however, proved a much easier thing for Hongkong than was anticipated, both Humphreys and Claxton beating the Shanghai representatives, McCabe and Prince. Humphreys won by a comfortable margin, while Claxton succeeded in snatching second place from McCabe by a touch. Shanghai scored, however, in the half-mile, when McCabe defeated Cooke by some four lengths. The Shanghai man is a powerful swimmer, and swam throughout the race with the same easy overarm stroke which carried Thomas to victory two years in succession in the harbour swim. The three cheers raised to the winner were thoroughly well deserved. The only stumbling block in the day's programme proved the high diving competition, and in this an *impasse* was reached as the judges, Mr. G. A. Caldwell (Hongkong) and Mr. P. Fowler (Shanghai), could not agree. It appears that while the "swallow" dive is the one in general use in the Colony, the Shanghai swimmers follow the rules of the Amateur Swimming Association, and while the local judge was in favour of giving first place to a local man, the judge for Shanghai held out for first place for a Shanghai competitor.

The meeting was under the management of the following officials:

President: His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Chairman: Mr. A. Rodger.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C. D. Silas.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. F. Lammert.

Judges: Messrs. M. McIver, J. Rodger, H. B. Bridger, A. N. Kemp and L. E. Lammert.

Referee: Mr. G. A. Caldwell.

Starter: Mr. T. Meek.

Handicappers: Messrs. T. Meek, A. A. Claxton, A. E. S. Alves, A. H. Carroll and H. C. Sayer.

Official Time-keepers: Messrs. R. Galluzzi and W. A. Crake.

Results of the various events follow:—

HUNDRED YARDS INTERPORT CHAMPIONSHIP.

C. Humphreys...	1
A. A. Claxton...	2
R. W. McCabe...	3

Time—65 3/5 seconds.

The draw for places saw the Shanghai representatives on the outer side of the enclosure, and the local men on the inside. The competitors got away with a good start, Humphreys and Prince being slightly in the lead of the other two. Humphreys was the first to turn, being closely followed by Prince, but the pace was too warm for the Shanghaiander, and he gradually yielded second place to Claxton. In the third and last length McCabe overhauled the leaders inch by inch, but the end of the race was too near and the distance between him and them too great. Humphreys won by a length

and a half, while Claxton just managed to gain second place by a touch.

TWO LENGTHS RACE.

Burch, R.G.A.	1
T. A. Burke, Bufts	2

Time—46 1/5 seconds.

This event, which was open to the army, navy and police, brought forward four starters, all soldiers. The race from the start was between Burch and Burke, the pair soon out-distancing Morrish and Harris. The last length was a willing one, Burch at times heading Burke and *vice versa*, until the race ended in Burch's favour by a touch.

FOUR LENGTHS HANDICAP.

FIRST HEAT: P. M. Remedios, scratch, 1; A. H. Carroll, receives 4 secs, 2.

Bunje got a start of about a length in this event, but both Remedios and Carroll gained considerably on him in the turn. A poor push off by Carroll in the third length enabled Remedios to overtake him, and to follow in pursuit of Bunje. The limit man had still a good lead, but it soon dwindled with the final spurt of Remedios and Carroll who gained first and second respectively. Remedios winning by about a length. Time—1 min. 42 secs.

SECOND HEAT: H. C. Sayer, receives 6 secs, 1; A. V. Barros, receives 6 secs, 2.

Roza soon overhauled Scriven in this race, and was challenged by Sayer for first place in the third length. Witchell swam well, but the handicap proved too much for him. Sayer still held his lead in the last length, being closely followed by Roza, while Barros made strenuous exertions to overtake the leaders. He was unable to reach Sayer, but with a splendid spurt he just managed to snatch second place from Roza. Time—1 min. 44 1/2 secs.

HIGH DIVE

The unlucky number of thirteen entered for this event, and it may have been that fact which brought about a deadlock. The differences in the methods of diving at Hongkong and in the Northern port kept the interport judges at variance, and they could not come to a decision as to the awards. Seeing that the styles of diving at Shanghai and Hongkong are so different, it would be obviously unfair to either representatives to ask them to compete in a competition which is entirely novel to them consequently the suggestion that the competitors should try again is one that is not likely to be attended with success.

VETERANS' RACE.

A. M. L. Soares, receives 16 seconds,	1
A. A. Alves, receives 6 seconds,	2

Time—59 seconds.

This was a two lengths' handicap open to members over 30 years of age. Soares made good use of his start, and although Lapsley and J. A. S. Alves made great efforts to overtake him they found the pace too warm and were obliged to slacken off in the second length.

TWO LENGTHS HANDICAP.

FIRST HEAT: P. C. Fenwick and F. L. Roza, dead heat.

Carroll was overtaken by Fenwick in the second length when Roza struck out and challenged the leader. A very good race followed between the pair, the result being that both got home together. Time—49 seconds.

SECOND HEAT: R. C. Silva, receives 10 secs, 1; O. R. Chunyut, receives 5 secs, 2.

Chunyut made the pace from the start, but he had a lot to catch up and found his task impossible, Silva winning by a length. Time, 50 2/5 seconds.

THIRD HEAT: R. C. Witchell, scratch, 1; C. Bunje, receives 10 secs, 2.

The only two in this race were the limit man and the scratch man. Witchell soon overhauled the others starters, and rapidly lessened the distance between himself and Bunje. With a powerful stroke he covered the final stages of the race, and was successful in beating Bunje by a tip. Time—42 seconds.

FOURTH HEAT: J. M. Roza Pereira, receives 5 secs, 1; P. M. Remedios, scratch, 2.

This race was between Pereira and Remedios. The latter got over the course well, but was unable to keep pace with the final spurt of Pereira. Time—46 3/5 seconds.

TEAM RACE.

P. M. Remedios's team composed of H. J. White, C. Bunje, R. Silva, P. C. Fenwick, A. R. Ellis, A. J. V. Ribeiro and F. L. Roza ... 1

H. C. Sayer's team, composed of W. G. Goggin, F. J. Barretto, M. A. R. Souza, W. J. Carroll, H. W. Petersen, A. V. Barros and A. S. Ellis ... 2

HALF-MILE INTERPORT CHAMPIONSHIP.

R. W. McCabe (Shanghai)	1
C. J. Cooke (Hongkong)	2

Time—16 min. 21 seconds.

This was the event in which Shanghai scored, honours falling easily and deservedly to them. The starters were:—Hongkong: C. J. Cooke, J. M. Roza Pereira, F. C. S. Rose, A. V. Barros, W. Dunk and P. Morrish. Shanghai: R. W. McCabe, D. H. Cooke, C. W. Mayne, J. G. Robinson and P. Fowler.

A good start witnessed McCabe taking the lead, and striking out with an easy yet powerful overarm stroke. He was followed closely by Pereira and Morrish during the first and second lengths, but in the third he increased his lead, and Pereira and Morrish made way for C. J. Cooke, Rose and Robinson. In the fifth lap Cooke drew into second place, Robinson and Rose following hard in his wake. In the sixth ap Cooke exerted himself to keep McCabe in hand, but the latter with his fine easy overarm stroke maintained his lead with apparent ease. Cooke struck out boldly in the seventh lap and gained considerably on McCabe, but the Shanghai swimmer maintained his steady pace until he was on the home run. Then he put on a final spurt which defied all Cooke's efforts, and amid frantic cheering he was acclaimed the winner. Rose was third man, coming in some ten yards behind Cooke. As McCabe entered the V.R.C. after the race he was given three rousing cheers.

SECOND DAY'S SPORT.

Success attended the second day of the most interesting aquatic meeting promoted by the V. R. C. The sport was of the same high order as on the opening day. Some noteworthy achievements were recorded, and with close finishes, accentuated by the feeling of interport rivalry, the spectators found the exhibition all that they could desire. There was no diminution in the attendance or in the interest manifested. The crowd on the lighter and on the club premises was as large as before, while the usual number who get enjoyment out of the proceedings from the Praya were in evidence. An improvement in the seating accommodation was effected.

When half of yesterday's programme had been covered, interport honours were not looking over bright for Shanghai, the first and second in the plunging championship, and the team race, having fallen to Hongkong. Thus they held three interport events to the one secured by Shanghai, while the result of the high diving competition was still unsettled. But the last four items on the programme, two of which were interport, saw honours even, for thanks to McCabe's skill, both fell to Shanghai. The result of to-day's interport events will decide which team shall take premier position—Hongkong or Shanghai.

HURDLE RACE.

A good entry was received for this event. The distance was two lengths over four hurdles, the first in each heat to swim in the final.

FIRST HEAT: J. M. R. Pereira, receiving four seconds, 1. Time—49 secs.

SECOND HEAT: R. C. Witchell, scratch 1. Time—46 sec. Witchell was not seriously challenged by his two rivals, Yvanovich and Barros.

THIRD HEAT: F. L. Roza, receiving 5 sec., 1. Time—50-4/5 secs. A good struggle between Petersen and Roza, with H. C. Sayer going strong.

FOURTH HEAT: A. J. V. Ribeiro, receiving four seconds, 1. Time—53/1-5 secs. Looked a dead heat almost with Carroll, but Ribeiro obtained the verdict.

INTERPORT PLUNGING.

F. M. Roza Pereira, 57ft. 6in.	1
R. C. Witchell, 57ft. 2in.	2

Prince, Fowler, and Cook of Shanghai, agreeing to abide by local conditions, struggled for the reputation of the northern port against Tata, F. B. Silva, F. M. Roza Pereira, A. M. L. Soares, Carl Bunge, and R. C. Witchell. Pereira's first plunge carried him 54 1/2 feet, and he was closely followed by Fowler and Witchell. In the second attempt Fowler outdistanced Pereira,

but the latter in his second plunge added fully a foot to Fowler's distance, a feat which was warmly applauded. Bunje's marvellous capacity for holding his breath might have found him among the winners had he been able to keep a straight course, but he generally slewed round with the tide. In his last effort Witchell was also successful in passing Fowler's mark, and gained second place for Hongkong.

BOYS RACE.

Cruz	1
Souza	2

Seven boys under fifteen competed in the two length's handicap, which proved a most exciting event. Three members of the Logan family participated, but the eldest could not make up his heavy handicap. The winners deserved places.

INTERPORT TEAM RACE.

Hongkong team—A. E. Alves, R. Lapsley, C. J. Cooke, P. M. Remedios, A. A. Claxton, C. Humphreys, H. C. Sayer and R. C. Witchell

Shanghai team—R. W. McCabe, G. J. Robinson, J. W. Wilson, T. W. Wilson, D. Cook, E. Prince, W. Jones, and C. W. Mayne

Right men a-side took part in the team race—Shanghai v. Hongkong. Shanghai obtained a slight advantage with their first two men, but Lapsley enabled Hongkong to draw level. Witchell improved on this, Cooke went even better, and Humphreys finished with two or three lengths to spare. Time—2.35-1/5.

FOUR LENGTHS HANDICAP.

P. M. Remedios, scratch	1
H. C. Sayer, receives 6 seconds	2

Time—1 min. 40 3/5 seconds.

The starters in this final were A. V. Barros, receives 6 seconds, H. C. Sayer, receives 6 secs, A. H. Carroll, receives 4 secs, and P. M. Remedios, scratch. An excellent start was witnessed, and Barros and Sayer had a big lead in the first length. In the second Sayer took the lead, Carroll lessening the distance that separated him from the foremost men, and Remedios overhauling Carroll. On the third turn Remedios drew level with Carroll, and before the length was completed overtook Barros. In the last length he caught up Sayer, who put on his final spurt, but his speed proved insufficient. The final stages saw Remedios gradually drawing to the front and he reached home first with a couple of lengths to spare. Barros, as on the previous day, came with a rush at the finish and challenged Sayer for second place. The latter, however, succeeded in defeating him by a touch.

THROWING THE POLO BALL.

R. W. McCabe (Shanghai), 67 ft. 4 in.	1
R. C. Witchell (H'kong), 66 ft. 2 in.	2

This was an interport championship event in which the eight competitors were allowed three throw each. There were five local representatives against three from Shanghai. McCabe's first throw showed that the athletic representative of the sister port was an adept at the game, but Hongkong supporters were in buoyant spirits when Cloke of the Buffs outdid the Shanghai man by six inches. Their delight was brief, however, for McCabe on his next throw went fully three feet beyond the soldier. Witchell's second attempt went beyond Cloke's best throw, but neither he nor any of the other local competitors could beat McCabe's excellent throw.

400 YARDS INTERPORT CHAMPIONSHIP.

R. W. McCabe (Shanghai)	1
C. J. Cooke (Hongkong)	2
W. Jones (Shanghai)	3

Times—1st man, 7 min. 56-1/5 secs; 2nd man, 7 min. 59-2/5 secs.

The entrants in this event were:

Hongkong: C. J. Cooke, R. C. Witchell, F. C. S. Rose, C. Humphreys, A. A. Claxton, A. V. Barros.

Shanghai: R. W. McCabe, C. W. O. Mayne, G. J. Robinson and W. Jones.

The course was from a launch between Murray Pier and the V.R.C., to a buoy beyond the Club House. The word "go" saw the ten men take the water together and swim in close order until well out in the stream. McCabe then drew slightly ahead, being followed by Humphreys and Cooke. The Shanghai man first rounded the buoy, and so far Humphreys had held him. Here,

however, the short distance man fell out, and Cooke followed close in the wake of the swimmer to whom he succumbed on the previous day, evidently bent on making him go for the present race. But McCabe was quite equal to the occasion, his long sweeping over-arm stroke carrying him through the water at a rapid pace, while to the spectator he did not appear to be exerting himself at all. Near the lighter Cooke and McCabe had left the rest of the competitors far behind, and these were scarcely noticed while the struggle for interport honours was being fought out between the best long-distance men which Hongkong and Shanghai can produce. McCabe put on his final spurt passing the lighter, and Cooke likewise got moving in his best style. There was a spell of intense excitement, Hongkong barrackers shouting themselves hoarse with cries of "Come on, Cooke", the responding cry of the small Shanghai following being one long wail of "Mac, Mac." And right well did Mac uphold the interests of the northern port. As the launch at which the race ended was neared, he gradually drew ahead of Cooke, and although the local man did his best, he was unable to overtake the Shanghai champion who won the race by three seconds. Jones got third place, but was yards behind Cooke. As McCabe entered the V.R.C. he received even a greater ovation than on the previous day, and the cheers of those who delight in a good race broke forth afresh as Cooke passed through the gate.

WATER POLO.

The second day's sport ended with a water polo match between two teams of V. R. C. members. Those who played were:

Whites: A. V. Barros (captain), H. J. White, P. M. Remedios, R. A. Carvalho, C. A. Rodrigues, E. Leitao and P. Yvanovich.

Blues: H. C. Sayer (captain), A. Alves, J. M. Pereira, A. J. V. Ribeiro, F. L. Roza, F. K. Tata and M. A. R. Souza.

The blues proved a slightly stronger combination than the whites, their passing being quicker and their shooting truer. After an exciting match the game ended in their favour by two goals.

Final: Blues, 3; Whites, 1 goal.

THIRD DAY'S SPORT.

HONGKONG VICTORIOUS.

Probably never in its history has there been such a large attendance at the V.R.C. as that which assembled on Saturday to witness the fight for the flag between Hongkong and Shanghai. The Club was thrown open to ladies, and there can be no doubt from the large number which attended that they were as keenly interested in the interport competition as were local sportsmen. The enclosure had been enlarged by the mooring of another lighter alongside the stand from which the races started. The galleries on both lighters were packed with sightseers, while all the available space on the Club premises from which the sport could be viewed was crowded with spectators, ladies being in attendance as early as three o'clock in order to secure favourable positions. The Attorney-General, the Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C., was present, also Commodore and Miss Lyon, Major Findlay, Chevalier and Madame Volpicelli and Lieutenant Blanchflower, the Commodore's A.D.C. The weather, which in the morning threatened to spoil the last day of the sports, fortunately cleared up, and conditions in the afternoon were as favourable as could be desired. The atmosphere was cool, an overcast sky shielding the spectators from the heat of the sun, while the swimmers were again favoured with smooth water in which to compete. The band of the Buffs was in attendance, and under the baton of Bandmaster Hewett, discoursed pleasing selections of music during the intervals between events on the programme.

In the interport competitions on the two previous days, Hongkong was one event to the good, the V.R.C. committee having settled the dispute anent the High Dive by awarding M. A. R. Souza (Hongkong) first prize, and D. H. Cook (Shanghai) second. On Saturday's programme there were four interport competitions, and as the result of these was to

decide which team would secure the flag, interest was naturally very keen. A boundless enthusiasm prevailed among the spectators who, when Hongkong had been announced as the winners of the first interport event (the team race), raised loud and long cheers to the victors, and cheered them again when they secured the second interport championship, the running header. The next event, the interport 200 yards, went to Shanghai, the crack swimmer of the Shanghai team, McCabe, defeating Humphreys easily. That a healthy spirit of sport prevails in Hongkong there can be no doubt after the flattering reception accorded McCabe. His splendid achievements in the three days' sport won the hearts of all genuine sportsmen, and his great feat of beating Cooke, the strongest long-distance swimmer in Hongkong, will keep his name green in the annals of the Colony's aquatic sport. On Saturday he was, without doubt, the hero of the hour, and this was abundantly made manifest at the presentation of prizes in the gymnasium when the sports had concluded. When the last event was over the large number of spectators crowded into the Club to witness the distribution of prizes by Miss Lyon. As each winner stepped forward he was loudly cheered, but not one of the many competitors was cheered half so loud or half so long as McCabe. The mention of his name was the signal for a mighty outburst of applause, and each time he received a well-won cup and acknowledged the congratulations of the spectators he was cheered again. At the conclusion of the presentation, and after Mr. Fowler, the captain of the Shanghai team, had returned thanks for the reception accorded his men, and had invited a Hongkong team to Shanghai, there was a call for McCabe. The Shanghai champion, in a typical Irish speech, returned thanks for the flattering reception accorded him. His remarks appear at the end of this report.

HURDLE RACE.

R. C. Witchell, scratch	1
F. L. Roza, receives 5 seconds	2

Time—45 3/5 seconds.

The four starters in the final of this event were R. C. Witchell, J. M. R. Pereira, F. L. Roza and A. J. V. Ribeiro. The distance was two lengths, and there were four hurdles. The race was Roza's all the way to the last hurdle, where he was overtaken by Witchell and defeated in the final spurt.

INTERPORT TEAM RACE.

Hongkong team composed of C. Humphreys, C. J. Cooke, R. C. Witchell, A. A. Claxton and P. M. Remedios

Shanghai team composed of R. W. McCabe, E. Prince, W. Jones, C. W. O. Mayne and G. J. Robinson

Time—3 min 40 4/5 secs. McCabe and Cooke were the first two to start and McCabe secured a lead of some two lengths on Cooke. Then Robinson and Remedios took the water, and the Hongkong swimmer soon made good the loss and gave the home team the advantage of a lead of four lengths. Claxton was followed by Jones, but the latter was unable to lessen the gap. Witchell and Prince were the next starters, the former having a long lead. Prince reduced this slightly, but when Humphreys took the water, followed by Mayne, it was apparent that Shanghai had no chance. Half-way in the second length Humphreys slackened speed, but Mayne was too far behind to overhaul him.

RUNNING HEADER INTERPORT CHAMPIONSHIP.

F. B. Silva	1
C. E. Harrop	2

In this event three tries were allowed, and points were given for form, style, entry and recovery. The competitors were:

Hongkong: W. G. Goggin, G. Collins, C. E. Harrop, F. B. Silva, R. A. Carvalho, M. A. R. Souza, and H. W. Petersen.

Shanghai: C. W. O. Mayne, E. Prince and W. Jones.

After all had had three tries Silva and Harrop were singled out for another dive, after which the judges decided on awarding Silva the first and Harrop the second prize.

TWO LENGTHS' HANDICAP.

R. C. Silva, receives 10 seconds	1
P. C. Fenwick receives 7 seconds	2

Time—49 3-5 seconds.

The starters in this final were F. L. Roza, P. C. Fenwick, R. C. Silva, R. C. Witchell and J. M. Roza Pereira. The swimmers kept close together until the turn, when Silva and Fenwick struggled for first place. Half-way home Silva took the lead, and although Fenwick tried hard to head him he was unsuccessful.

200 YARDS INTERPORT CHAMPIONSHIP.

R. W. McCabe (Shanghai) ... 1
C. Humphreys (Hongkong) ... 2
Time—2 min. 37-3/5 seconds.

There were four starters in this six lengths race, Humphreys and Cooke representing Hongkong, and McCabe and Robinson representing Shanghai. The swimmers got an excellent start, and McCabe was the first to turn, being closely followed by Humphreys with Cooke third and Robinson fourth. In the third length a good push off enabled Humphreys to draw level with McCabe, the pair swimming several yards ahead of Robinson and Cooke. Until the last length Humphreys and McCabe kept close together, Cooke being entirely out of the running and Robinson having given up. The struggle now followed between Humphreys and McCabe, who traversed three parts of the distance home neck and neck. Then McCabe put on the final spurt, to which Humphreys was unable to respond, and the Shanghai representative won the race by six lengths, his success being heralded with great cheering.

CONSOLATION RACE.

R. Lapsley ... 1
A. H. Carroll ... 2

INTERPORT WATER POLO.

The last item on the day's programme was the interport polo match between teams representing Shanghai and Hongkong. In this event the visitors were unfortunate in being unable to turn out at full strength, two of their men being ill. One of them, however, took the water to make up the team, but he was in no fit condition to do so. Even with a full team, it is scarcely likely that Shanghai would have succeeded in vanquishing the representative team which Hongkong placed against them. There was a lack of combination with the visitors, a slowness in securing, and a want of practice in throwing the ball, which marred their game. The players were:

Hongkong: L. Lammert, Corporal Burke, R. C. Witchell, A. E. Alves, J. M. R. Pereira, C. J. Cooke and A. H. Carroll.

Shanghai: G. W. R. Wilson, W. Jones, D. H. Cooke, R. W. McCabe, P. Fowler, C. W. O. Mayne and T. E. N. Rosser.

C. J. Cooke secured the first throw in, and passed the leather to Pereira, whose attempt to net went too high. Cooke secured the ball again and gave Carroll an opportunity, but this was cleared by Wilson. A rapid move on Pereira's part, however, was successful, for before Wilson was ready for the next shot the ball landed in the net, putting Hongkong one up. The Shanghai defence had a strenuous time during most of the half, but McCabe proved the thorn in the side of the local men, for it was due principally to his exertions that the visiting team did not suffer a greater defeat. In a move towards the Hongkong stronghold Mayne essayed a long shot, striking an upright. Lammert then passed the leather on to Burke, who carried it along the wing and put in a shot which Wilson conceded a corner to save. A second corner followed, a struggle ensued, and the ball was netted for the second time.

Half-time: Hongkong, 2 goals; Shanghai, nil.

In the second moiety Rosser went into goal for Shanghai, and Wilson took his place in the forward line. The change proved of no advantage, however, for Hongkong became aggressive as soon as the whistle sounded, and Rosser allowed an easy shot of Cooke's to pass him, thereby putting the local men three up. McCabe relieved the next pressure, but the respite was brief, for the leather was passed to Burke, who throughout played a splendid game, his rapid moves on the wing always defeating his opponent. On this occasion he swam up to the net and sent in a stinger which the Shanghai keeper had no possibility of saving. Shot succeeded shot at the Shanghai net after this, but the goal remained intact until the finish. The final stages saw Shanghai fighting hard for a point, but their

weak attempts were foiled by the watchful Lammert. Jones succeeded in eluding Cooke on one occasion, and a smart swim enabled him to try a shot, but this was easily cleared by Lammert, and Hongkong were again becoming aggressive when the whistle sounded.

Final: Hongkong, 4 goals; Shanghai, nil.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

An adjournment was then made to the Gymnasium, where Miss Lyon presented the prizes to the successful competitors.

Mr. T. E. PEARCE, Acting Chairman of the V.R.C., in asking the lady to undertake this task, remarked that this was an historic day in the annals of the Club. Not only was it 50 years old, but they had had the pleasure of welcoming from Shanghai aquatic swimmers who had shown what long-distance swimming was. (Hear, hear.) He was sure that every swimmer in the Colony was pleased that interport swimming had been started. It had taken fifty years to get a move on, but now that it was started they were not going to let it drop, and he hoped that in a few years' time they would be able to welcome Shanghai again. (Hear, hear.) He was pleased that Hongkong had come out on top, but it should not be forgotten that the Shanghai representatives came here to swim in strange waters and in different conditions. He wished specially to mention the long distance swimming of McCabe—(Applause)—and also the names of the swimmers who had upheld the reputation of Hongkong, Humphreys and Claxton. (Applause.) It had been said that Prince was a terror, and it was unfortunate that he should have been unwell before he came here. He hoped that next time this swimmer met Humphreys it would be in a Shanghai bath. He had to thank the Shanghai swimmers for a cup they had donated for the hundred yards championship. The speaker was pleased to see so many ladies in attendance, and they were deeply indebted to Miss Lyon for attending to present the prizes. (Applause.) He asked that lady to proceed with her task.

On the prizes being awarded, and on Mr. Lionel Lammert taking charge of the Water Polo Shield, which had been won by the V. R. C., Miss Lyon was presented with a pretty bouquet of flowers, and was accorded three hearty cheers, and a "tiger."

PARTING WITH THE FLAG.

Mr. FOWLER then stepped forward and said it devolved upon him, as captain of the Shanghai team—to he was sorry to say—leave their flag behind. Shanghai recognised that they had been thoroughly defeated by a strong combination of good swimmers and divers. He thought, however, that they had not been disgraced on account of the magnificent swimming of the gentleman who had been applauded so heartily and whose success was so greatly appreciated by the people of Hongkong and the team of which he had the pleasure to be captain. (Cheers.) On behalf of the Shanghai team, and on behalf of the swimmers of Shanghai who had assisted in sending the interport team here, he invited Hongkong to send a representative team to Shanghai next year, so that they might have an opportunity of regaining the first swimming flag that had left Shanghai. It was no easy task to get together a representative interport team, but he assured those present that the team brought to Hongkong was a representative one in every sense of the word, both as regarded interport swimming and aquatic events. He had much pleasure in handing over the flag, but he trusted that next year a Hongkong team would be sent to Shanghai to give them an opportunity of recovering their loss. (Applause.)

Mr. PEARCE, in accepting the flag given with so much grace, accepted the challenge of Shanghai on behalf of Hongkong swimmers. They would do their best to send a team to Shanghai next year, and would try to take another flag. (Applause.) At any rate the Hongkong swimmers would give Shanghai every chance of winning back their flag.

The Shanghai swimmers then gave three cheers and a "tiger" for Hongkong, and the compliment was returned.

This should have ended the proceedings, but the spectators wanted to hear Mr. McCabe, and in response to their vociferous calls the Shanghai swimmer stepped forward. He thanked all very much for calling on him to make a speech,

but said speech-making was not exactly in his line, especially after the strenuous time he had during the last three days. It surprised him that he had been able to secure any prizes here at all after the hospitable way he had been entertained. (Hear, hear.) He did not say it was done on purpose to interfere with his swimming, but he had had the time of his life. He had to thank all for the reception accorded him, which passed all expectations. He trusted that when the Hongkong swimmers went to Shanghai next year they would do better in swimming than they had done on this occasion, but to do so they would have to train in the meantime. (Applause.)

BOXING CONTESTS.

The Club's gymnasium was well filled on Friday evening, when a number of amateur boxing contests were brought off. The first was a four round bout between

PETERSEN AND IVANOVICH.

From start to finish the fight was an exciting one, and the combatants continued to mix things up. Petersen scored with right and left swings to the body, but they lacked the force of Yvanovich's drives which, although not delivered so often, proved more effective. The latter was given the decision.

ROZA V. CHUNYUT.

F. L. da Roza and O. R. Chunyut next entered the ring for a four round bout. Chunyut was giving his opponent about 30 lbs. but what he lacked in weight he made up in agility, generally eluding Roza's hefty swings and occasionally getting home some pretty jabs. In the last round Roza made up for his previous slackness and the judges called for another two minute round. This ended in favour of Chunyut, and he was declared the winner.

RODRIGUES V. WHITE.

Next came a three round contest between C. A. C. Rodrigues and H. J. White. From a spectator's point of view this proved highly entertaining. White always closed his eyes when he saw a blow coming, and when he got it he smiled. In fact, every blow he got throughout the fight brought a smile to his face; to the great amusement of the spectators. Rodrigues won.

SAYER AND GEE.

Another three rounds followed between H. Sayer and A. D. Gee. Sayer proceeded to rush things from the start, and kept Gee busy dodging his rapid blows. In the second round Sayer got home repeatedly on Gee's jaw, and Gee decided to give up the unequal contest.

EXHIBITIONS.

After an interval of fifteen minutes an amusing three round exhibition spar took place between Bill Lewis and Kid Marriott.

Then followed a sabre competition between Sergeants Link and Fincher of the Buffs. Link was an easy winner.

CARVALHO V. CHUNYUT.

R. A. Carvalho and I. E. Chunyut next met in a three round bout, Chunyut allowing Carvalho fifteen pounds. The pair lost no time in getting into holts, and provided a very interesting mill. The second round was a willing one. Chunyut forced the fighting, but every time he rushed in Carvalho scored with right and left. In the third round Carvalho had the advantage, and although Chunyut continued with a rare pluck, he had no chance with his generous opponent, who might have forced the fighting when he had Chunyut played out. The decision was a popular one, for the fight was without doubt the best witnessed during the evening.

THE INTERPORT MATCH.

The match for interport honours was between A. A. Claxton (Hongkong) and C. W. O. Mayne (Shanghai). The representatives were well matched and put considerable life and science into the three fast rounds they fought. Honours were so even that the judges did not give a decision.

FORBES V. CAPHAM.

The principal event of the evening, which was looked forward to with considerable interest,

was an eight round bout between J. Forbes, 10st 7lbs, and A. J. Capham, 11st 3lbs. With the sounding of the gong it was apparent that the fight was going to be a willing one, but the abrupt ending of the contest in the first round caused general disappointment. Both men were hard hitters, Forbes in particular. His powerful swings were very effective, and this was apparent from a contusion which he raised below Capham's left eye. The fight was not allowed to proceed far enough, however, to judge of the men's qualifications, for before the first round had concluded the decision was given against Forbes for a hit in clinch.

Dr. F. H. Kew acted as referee. The judges were the Hon. P. G. Scarlett and Mr. H. J. Gedde. Mr. T. Meek acted as timekeeper, Mr. R. L. Bridger as M. C., while the stewards were Messrs. J. A. S. Alves, A. L. Alves, H. E. Scriven and J. H. Mead.

LOCAL SPORT.

THE HARBOUR SWIM.

The race across the harbour for the *China Mail* Cup took place on Saturday (18th inst.) in favourable weather conditions. That this annual event is becoming a popular institution was plainly manifest by the large crowd which assembled to witness it. Not only was all the available space in the V.R.C. occupied, but from that building right along to Statue Pier a serried crowd lined the waterfront. The fo'ble decks of the warships near the course were alive with sailors, while in the vicinity of the police pier at Kowloon, where the race started, numerous steam launches, motor boats and rowing craft were drifting about awaiting the signal.

Twenty men lined up on the rail of the V.R.C. launch, and at a signal from the starter took the water. Barros and Ellis set out on a westerly course, swimming against a slight current. Most of the sailors struck out towards the east, while a central group which made direct for the Hongkong shore contained Cooke, Stiff, Morrish and Witchell. When the competitors were well out from Kowloon, a little excitement prevailed through the capsizing of a pair-oar containing Messrs. Cruickshank and R. C. Witchell. It is supposed that they leaned too much to one side in the excitement of the moment, and thus brought about the accident. Another boat went to their assistance, and they were soon bending to the oars again, their ardour being unchecked. Cooke was in the van when well out in the stream, Stiff, the Buffs' representative, being close behind him, while Barros on the western run was in a good position. As the Portuguese gunboat was approached Cooke still held the lead, but as Barros had a straight course it appeared as if he would gain an advantage in the final stages of the race. Stiff meanwhile, was overtaken by Morrish, of the Royal Engineers, and was challenged by Rose, of the *Empress of China*. As the foremost swimmers neared the Hongkong shore, it was apparent that the race was between Cooke, Barros and Morrish, all three making the final effort as they passed the V.R.C. Cooke gained a lead and held it until he touched the Praya wall, beating Barros by 24 seconds, while Morrish was well up in third place. The winner received a flattering ovation from the spectators, who were also generous with the applause they bestowed on the second and third men. The first six in were:—

C. J. Cooke	1
A. V. Barros	2
Lance-Corporal Morrish, R. E.	3
Rose, <i>Empress of China</i>	4
Private Stiff, Buffs	5
A. A. Claxton	6

Time—29 min. 26½ secs.

After the event Mrs. Bellamy Brown presented the prizes in the V.R.C. Gymnasium.

Mr. Pearce, in asking her to do so, remarked that thanks were again due to the proprietors of the *China Mail* for presenting the prizes for this race. It was evident from the increased number of entries this year that the harbour swim was becoming more

popular every year. (Hear, Hear.) He thought the swimming fraternity were very greatly indebted to the donors, not only for promoting the race, but for presenting such handsome prizes. (Hear, Hear.) They were also grateful to Mrs. Brown for attending to present them. She had taken an interest in this event for two years, and he hoped to see her presenting the prizes for many years to come. (Applause.)

Mr. C. J. Cooke then stepped forward to receive the first prize, being greeted with prolonged and uproarious applause. Mr. A. V. Barros received the same cordial reception when presenting himself for second prize, and the applause was renewed as Lance-Corporal Morrish accepted the third.

Mrs. Brown was then presented with a handsome bouquet, after which cheers were raised to the lady and the prize donors.

BOXING TOURNAMENT.

A very successful series of boxing contests was brought off in the City Hall on Saturday (25th inst.) in the presence of a well-filled house. The bouts were promoted by Mr. R. H. Whittaker, whose name when connected with any boxing contest is a guarantee of its genuineness. Mr. "Jack Dempsey" made an impartial referee, while the timekeeping was in the capable hands of Messrs. S. Kelly and G. Glover, and Mr. E. Kennedy acted as announcer.

The first event of the evening was an eight round bout between Stoker Philpot of H.M.S. *Cadmus* and Gunner White of the 88th Co., R. G. A., both of whom entered the ring at 9 stone. The fight was of short duration, for after a few exchanges the stoker got a somewhat lucky right on to White's jaw, and the soldier was counted out. Later in the evening the winner challenged Williams, of the R. G. A., to fight any number of rounds for any purse or any side but the latter wished to put up.

The second fight of ten rounds was between Bandsman Willis of the Buffs and Tom Wilks of the Naval Yard, Willis being entered at 12 stone and Wilks at 10 stone 11lbs. This bout, while it lasted, was productive of some very hard hitting. Willis forced the fighting after the first round, but many of his rushes were stopped by Wilks' right. The third round was Willis', the bandsman scoring right and left. Wilks fell on his hip, and although the gong saved him from being counted out, he threw up the sponge. He was rather seriously hurt, however, for he left the hall with a limp.

Kid Marriot of the Naval Yard and Seaman Stevens of H.M.S. *Cadmus* were the next to enter the ring for a six round bout. The weights were announced as 116 lbs. In Stevens, a novice in the ring, Marriot ran up against one of the few "tough propositions" he has met in the Colony, and one who, with a little more experience, will prove a formidable rival. In the first few rounds of this event many of the spectators thought it was a spar, as Marriot was indulging in his well-known sparring tactics, probably thinking he had an "easy thing" on hand. He soon settled down to genuine work, however, when he found that the little seaman, notwithstanding his lack of ring-craft, was a dangerous antagonist with which to play. The fight throughout was a very clean one, and as both men had scored well in the various rounds, the referee's decision, "a draw," was a popular one.

After an exhibition spar between Williams and Meyer of the 87th Co., R. G. A., a ten round bout was announced between Gr. Arundel, 88th Co., and Gr. Hubbard, 87th Co., R. G. A., the weight of each man being 140lbs. Right through the ten rounds the fight was a willing one, both men taking severe punishment. Throughout the contest Hubbard continued to place solid right swings on his opponent's ribs, while Arundel's left generally found Hubbard's jaw, and occasionally his right crashed over the heart of the 87th Co. man. In most of the rounds Arundel scored heavily, but Hubbard showed a remarkable capacity for taking punishment, and with true bull-dog grit stuck to his cleverer opponent. Arundel tried hard for a knock-out, but the hardihood of Hubbard buoyed him up to the end, and then he appeared to be fit for many more rounds. Arundel won the fight on points.

The main event of the evening was between Bill Lewis, the clever Canadian boxer, and Seaman Roberts of H. M. S. *Kent*. Lewis' weight was announced at 137lbs, and Roberts' at 135lb, and the contest was to be twenty rounds of two minutes' duration. It was not expected, however, that the fight would continue as long as it did. Seaman Roberts is a very good man, but he is not in the same class as Lewis, who, had he desired, could have finished the fight earlier than he did. The first few rounds were "feelers," but in the third Lewis placed a few lefts on the seaman's jaw, and Roberts retaliated with some solid right swings. In the fifth and sixth rounds Roberts scored with rights to the jaw, but the seventh round was all Lewis', his left jabs to the point and right swings to the ribs having a visible effect on Roberts. In the eighth and the final round Lewis continued to batter his opponent, finally placing him *hors de combat* with a left uppercut to the jaw. There was a cry of "foul" from Roberts' supporters, who claimed that Lewis had hit in a clinch. This was not the case, however, for Roberts was just clear when the winning blow was struck.

TENNIS.

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP.

As was anticipated, the final in the tennis championship of Kowloon Cricket Club, which was played off on Thursday afternoon, proved an exciting and interesting game. The previous holder, Mr. P. H. Klimanek, being absent from the Colony, was unable to compete. The finalists were Messrs. S. E. Green and W. N. Edwards. In the first set the game was exceedingly fast, the driving and placing of both players being excellent. Game after game was keenly contested until "seven all" was called. Green won the set at 2-7, through a faulty drive by Edwards, and had the service. The second and third sets were productive of long rallies. Green showed a steadiness in form, but his opponent was successful in bringing off some difficult strokes, and won both sets at 6-2, thereby becoming entitled to the championship gold medal presented by the Vice-President, Mr. W. Stewart.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION COUNCIL.

A meeting of this body was held at the Y.M.C.A. on 23rd inst., when it was decided to appoint a board of examiners for the purpose of examining referees. The members appointed were Mr. Frank Browne (president), Sergeant Edwards, the Buffs, Gunner Marsh, Royal Artillery, Sapper Heigh, Royal Engineers, and Mr. Jameson, H.K.F.C. Byelaws were submitted and approved, and will be issued with the rules of the Association in book form in the course of next week.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL LEAGUE: SECOND DIVISION.

Following the meeting of the Council, another meeting was held to consider the formation of a second division of the League. There were present representatives from the Lusitano Football Club, the Boys' Own Club, the Moslems, the Buffs Drummers, the 83rd and 88th Co., R. G. A. and the Departmental team. It was agreed that a second division of the League should be formed, and it was decided to try to get another team to enter, thus bringing eight teams into the second division. A further meeting will be held next Friday to draw up rules, and to elect office bearers, and these will be submitted to a meeting of the Hongkong Football Association which will be held later.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

At the general meeting of the league held in the Y.M.C.A. rooms last Friday it was decided to open the season on Saturday, 9th October. With the six resident teams all taking part in the competition good games are assured, and the struggle for the coveted honour of being League Champions of 1909-10 is sure to be a keen one.

Kowloon F.C. have secured the services of Foulkes (Y.M.C.A.) as their custodian.

B.O.C. F.C. are at present on the hunt for a good goalkeeper. This, it will be remembered, was one of the Boys' weak points last season. They have received a promise from a full back who recently arrived in the Colony.

The much talked of second division is likely to be an accomplished fact before the end of the week. B.O.C. F.C., Lusitano F.C., Moslem F.C., and 84 Co. R.G.A. have notified the acting Secretary, Sapper Heigh, R.E., of their support, and Hongkong F.C. (A team), Chinese Y.M.C., and the Buffs Drummers are probable starters. As the B.O.C. and Lusitano are each desirous of entering two teams no difficulty should be experienced in forming the second division, provided, of course, the ground difficulty can be overcome.

MILITARY PROSPECTS.

Buffs.—The team of the league champions is likely to be slightly different for this season. I understand several of the older players are desirous of standing down to give the young bloods a chance. The trooping season may also affect the Buffs, as some of last season's team are due Home then. Judging from the class of players the Buffs had in their "A" Team in the shield competition, an eleven which will do justice to their football reputation should be forthcoming, and no matter who their opponents may be on October 9th a good game is guaranteed.

R.G.A.—The "runners up" have again entered the league, and with most of last season's players at their disposal should again be well up the league table at the finish.

R.E.—The Sappers' prospects for the ensuing season are not very promising, as at least seven of the players who did duty last season are due to leave for England with the troopship *Rewa* in November. A large draft arrive from Home, and the committee, with the assistance of Secretary Jackson, will lose no time in getting the footballers in trim.

The Sappers will open their season with the Naval Yard in a friendly on Saturday, October 2nd.

REFEREE.

CRICKET NOTES.

At last after a long spell of inertia the bats, pads and gloves are again being brought into requisition. With what feelings of regret we look at our gear and find the result of our neglect made manifest. The willow looks thirsty for a drop of oil, gloves have set hard and have a nasty looking lot of blue mold sticking to them, while pads all need new straps. And we determine never again to neglect our gear! Each year we find the heat (aggravated by pegs) too great to trouble about cricket gear—hence our regrets.

As usual, all the clubs are starting off with great vim. A word in season may not be out of the way. Cricket, like all other branches of athleticism, must be treated carefully. Sprinters must not over-run, footballers must not overdo their training, swimmers and cyclists the same; there is always the danger of going stale. In other words, do not lose your enthusiasm. The history of cricket repeats itself from year to year. As the season opens practice nets spring up on every available bit of turf like magic and the ground boys are kept busy from 4 p.m. to sundown. In the opening matches we see all the clubs out in full strength, each confident in their own prowess. The attendances after a while diminishes. The number at the nets dwindle to nothing, so in the matches half-way through the season some of the teams turn up seven or eight strong. In lists of teams published we see such names as A. N. Other, S. B. Else, and so on, and find these mysterious terms apply to one or other of the ground boys till about an hour or so after the match has started, when comes leisurely strolling along an immaculately got up person in blazer flannels who says "so or'fily sorry," and with pads, gloves, etc. succeeds in making his duck's egg without any difficulty.

The club ground is looking like a cricket ground once more, and we see the old faces

again at the nets, but miss, oh, so much! Hongkong's tower of strength, the genial Dick Hancock and his brother Harry. The Doctor is also away, but we trust to see him very shortly looking all the better for his holiday.

Kowloon have already had a preliminary. It is hard to say how they will fare this season. Rumour has it that Brawn is taking up the trundling for them. They need more new blood; otherwise, their chances for league honours do not look too rosy.

Civil Service have started at the nets, and having practically the same team as last year should be well up. It is pleasant to find their old skipper (Jackman) back from leave. He should once more prove his strength at cover-point and occasionally trundling round the wicket.

The Buffs and Artillerymen should show up well if their officers stick to League cricket, but if they find the Club matches too attractive it will be disastrous to their prospects for the Shield.

Police are not too strong and want new blood to "buck them up."

Craigengower will miss Brawn, but if they stick closely to practice should make quite a good show. They have one or two griffins coming on who might do well.

The team that will win the Shield this year is the team who succeeds best in sticking together throughout the season.

The suggested Junior League has been abandoned. It is just probable that we have not a sufficient number of grounds to accommodate two leagues. In any case there is no reason why after the league fixtures are published the second elevens and other clubs should not get out their syllabi filling in the vacant dates.

It is rather early yet to discuss Interport prospects, but one fact that appears evident is that we are badly in want of bowlers.

UMPIRE.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

A JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENT.

Tokyo, September 19th.

It is authoritatively announced that Baron Uchida, now Minister at Vienna, will succeed Baron Takahira at Washington.

FOREIGNERS IN JAPANESE AND LAND-OWNERSHIP.

Tokyo, September 19th.

The Government is introducing into the Diet next session a measure dealing with the ownership of land by foreigners.

THE SAN FRANCISCO CELEBRATIONS.

Tokyo, September 19th.

The British cruiser *Bedford* has left Yokohama for San Francisco, for the celebrations that are being held in connection with the rebuilding of the city.

The Japanese cruiser *Idzumo* leaves tomorrow.

PRINCE'S SAD DEATH.

Tokyo, September 21st.

The death has occurred at Kobe from plague of Prince Sebusamane, the son of the Siamese Minister for Foreign Affairs at Bangkok, who was learning shipbuilding at Kawasaki and worked as an artisan.

THE BOYCOTT MOVEMENT IN CHINA.

Tokyo, September 23rd.

Boycott propaganda in China is spreading, and the Tokyo Government is strongly representing the seriousness of the movement to the Government at Peking.

COMMERCIAL

IMPORTS:—

RICE.

Messrs Wm. G. Hale & Co., of Saigon in their Circular dated the 18th inst., say:—Owing to the absence of demand and the immediate necessity for certain paddy dealers to realize their stocks, prices of rice have dropped considerably since our last advices. In view of the small quantity of the crop now remaining unsold, this decline cannot however last very long. Arrivals of Cochinchina paddy are next to nothing.

We quote for September to October delivery.

No. 2 White sifted (*trie*) steam milled.

round *

No. 2 White unsifted (ordinary) steam

milled (round) \$3.80

5 % Cargo steam milled round 3.45

10 % Cargo steam milled round 3.38

20 % Cargo steam milled round 3.24

* Prices according to terms and conditions.

The following is a statement of this year's Exports of White Rice, Cargo Rice and Paddy:—

Destination.	Total pcs.
Hongkong	60,213
Manila	30,338
Hilo	6,041
Cebu	34,453
Japan	36,308
Singapore	52,558
Batavia	24,909
Tjilapjap	3,432
Passoeran	2,506
Samarang	3,172
Sourabaya	45,050
India	4,062
Ceylon	1,878
Madagascar	35
Réunion	17,37
Mauritius	12,202
Egypt	24,447
Australia	1,232
Europe	197,814

Total 557,687

Same period of last year 670,856

JAPAN MARKET INFORMATION.

Cotton Piece Goods.—Deliveries are satisfactory, and although a regular demand has not as yet set in, dealers are showing some interest in staple lines. Woollens and Woollen Mixtures.—Buyers are clearing purchases in an encouraging manner and stocks have been considerably lowered; forward business, however, is still dull. **Raw Cotton.**—The market begins to show some activity. **Rice.**—There have been no transactions to report. **Metal.**—Conditions seem to be improving, though local ideas are still more or less under home values. In Basic Steel Bars an important transaction is reported. **Window Glass.**—There has been a slight drop, but no business has resulted. **Buyers,** having large stocks coming, are waiting more favourable prices. **Sugar.**—The market has ruled quiet and business has been done in imported refined. **Flour.**—In sympathy with lower values in Wheat, quotations for flour have receded, and some small buying is reported. **Wheat.**—Firm offers from mills have been made but without result. It is expected that lower prices will be seen presently.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai, 17th Sept., 1909, state:—So much of the business now-a-days is conducted under the indent system, or perhaps it would be more correct to say "has been," that one is apt to put the market down as dead, dull if there is none of that class of business passing at the moment. What is wanted all the time is fresh business, and Importers are prone to overlook the fact that the deliveries are a better indication of the state of the market at the moment than any number of forward contracts can possibly be, as they are only based on anticipated demands, which may never eventuate, as has so often happened. On this basis there is not much to complain about the trade at present, as most Importers declare their clearances have been excellent during the interval. It would, perhaps, be more satisfactory if this were applicable to both the old stocks under indents as well as fresh importations, for it is to be feared the dealers are discriminating by taking the cheaper bought goods first and allowing charges to accumulate on their earlier purchases that still remain uncleared. This also

militates against the holders of fresh stocks of their own, who not unnaturally are disinclined to accept prices now current here that are 10 to 15% below replacing cost. It is small consolation to know the home markets are likely to keep up, as the prospects of an increased demand for India are becoming brighter, when it is realised that at the same time excessive supplies are being imported by one's neighbours, with the object of getting a footing in the trade at any price. It certainly looks as though there is going to be a long and costly struggle for the possession of this market in Manchester makes, with the inevitable result of cheap goods for the consumer and heavy losses to the Importers. The movement of goods as depicted by the figures on the fourth page cannot be called satisfactory. True, the deliveries of some items show an increase over last year, but that was by no means an abnormal year, and then in almost every such case the Imports are still more excessive. And this applies to almost all makes, with the exception of Fancies, the deliveries of which have been artificially accelerated by the great sacrifices Importers have had to suffer in reducing their stocks. The outlook is not at all satisfactory from whatever side it is viewed. The Country market are without any special feature and greatly depend on the progress of the harvests during the next few weeks. At the commencement of the interval a steamer advertised to load for Korea seems to have stimulated the deliveries considerably. Yesterday orders for American goods came down from Newchwang and over two thousand bales had been bought up to noon to-day, but the second-hand holders, from whom they were bought, have been fairly easy to deal with. Importers will not look at the prices they are selling at, and consequently remain inactive. The Natives report the Tientsin market as having improved all round and fully expect to see a good demand before long. The Mid-Autumn selling day, which occurs on the 28th inst., is probably making itself felt in these times of restricted credit. Hankow seems to be doing a quiet but quite satisfactory business judging by the off-take; it seems, however, to have changed its nature somewhat, as many former suppliers are complaining of the absence of orders for their goods. The strong position of Cotton owing to the expected shortage of the crop in the United States is keeping the Manchester market very firm, combined with the short time principle adopted by spinners. As regards staple makes business with this is quite impracticable, but small orders for Fancies are apparently still going through. In the Liverpool Cotton market there is a good deal of movement up and down almost daily this morning the "spot" price being advised as 6.84d. steady. There is, however, some scepticism about this, as at the close yesterday 6.62d. was quoted for September, and earlier in the day 6.46d. for December/January option. For Egyptian a slight decline is quoted, namely, 9½d. In New York the quotations for Middling are 12.44 cents for October and 12.48 cents for December. There is no news of the goods market, which presumably is unchanged. The market for Yarns is keeping quite steady, though the firmer Exchange may have some influence on prices when the market re-opens. The demand and clearances are fully satisfactory for the period of the year for all spinnings. The weather conditions continue distinctly favourable for Cotton and a fairly large forward business is being done, but prices are keeping very full. From what Importers tell us there is scarcely anything doing from first hands and they are really beginning to despair that prices will ever be allowed to go high enough to permit of their selling at anywhere near replacing cost. The transactions reported in American makes are all from second hands and amount to over 2,100 bales. There is a good proportion of light weight Shirtings, of which we can quote Tls. 3.37½ for Harding LL, Tls. 3.40 for Piedmont K, Tls. 3.57½ for Ease'ey, and Tls. 3.62½ for Buffalo LL; and in Sheetings some 3.25 yards at Tls. 4.27½/4.40 and heavier weights at Tls. 4.70 for Loray A and Abbeville and Tls. 4.80 for Massachusetts. In Drills 3 yards have changed hands at Tls. 4.70, Cameron at Tls. 4.95 and Massachusetts at Tls. 5.00. The Auctions have not shown up very well for the staple makes of Grey and White goods, though the differences in most cases are not very great. In only a few instances have Turkey Reds shown any appreciation, but this is probably accounted for by the increased supplies coming forward recently. Fast Black Italians, on the whole, have realised steady to firm prices, considering the free quantities that are being offered, upwards of 12,000 pieces a week, not counting miscellaneous Auctions. Venetians are weaker as a rule. Woollens have not sold very successfully, the demand, apparently, not being very even. Lastings and certain colours of Camlets have shown some firmness.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, September 23rd.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	\$1,150/1,180	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1,190/1,220	do.
Malwa Older	\$1,230/1,260	do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1,270/1,300	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$1,100/1,140	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$1,000/1,050	do.
Patna New	\$1,115	per chest.
Patna Old	\$1,100	do.
Benares New	\$1,070	do.
Benares Old	\$1,070	do.

EXPORTS:—

SILK.

YOKOHAMA, 15th September, 1909.

RAW SILK.—Our last report was dated the 26th August, and during the fortnight under review a further decline in prices has taken place. A somewhat better demand was experienced by the end of last week; but as soon as immediate requirements were filled, our market again became flat, and at the close things generally are weak. The Autumn crop is large and of good quality, so that our original estimate of about 140,000 piculs is likely to be realized.

WASTE SILK.—Market quiet with some business in Oshiu Noshi and Tegaroh. Quotations slightly easier. Settlements from August 26th to September 8th, 1,200 piculs. Total Settlements from July 1st to September 8th, 4,250 piculs. Stock on September 2th is estimated at 12,500 piculs, viz.:—Noshi 4,500 piculs. Kibizze 6,800 piculs. Pierced cocoons and Sundries, 1,200. Total 12,500 piculs. Against last year 13,000 piculs.

HABUTAI.

YOKOHAMA, 15th September, 1909.

KANAZAWA.—Prices are somewhat higher owing to decreased production and to a demand, principally in "26" and "36", for better grades for America. Echizen.—The production is still small, and, with the increased demand which has set in, prices have an upward tendency. Kawamata.—There is no change to report. There is a steady demand for "36" in better grades and in "27" in lower qualities.

CAMPHOR

HONGKONG, 27th Sept. —The above market is at a standstill and prices remain as last quoted.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 16th Sept.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 38.00
Do. seconds	" 34.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	" 22.00
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour	" —
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	" —
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 9.10
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" 8.10
Green China Grass, Szechuan	" —
Jute	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 11.40
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchew and/or Macheng	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" —
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 11.00
Animal Tallow	" 11.10
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 15.70
Gallnuts, plum do.	" 18.00
Tobacco Tingchow	" —
Tobacco, Wongkong	" —
Black Bristles	" —
Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck	" —
Turmeric	" —
Sesamum Seed	" 5.30
Sesamum Seed Oil	" —
Wood Oil	" 9.30
Tea Oil	" —

P. & O. steamer *Borneo*, sailed on 23rd September. For Hamburg—5 cases human hair. For Manchester—150 bales waste silk. Marseilles—100 bales waste silk, 5 cases human hair, 50 cases Starain Seed. For London—2068 pkgs. tea, 350 cases preserves, 87 cases preserves, 11 cases curios and personal effects, 1 case machinery, 5 cases oilmen stores.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 24th September, 1909.—There has been a little more movement in local stocks during the week under review, but rates have ruled weaker nearly all round, and the volume of business is still anything but large. Exchange on London closes at 1/8½, T/T and on Shanghai 74½. There has been a fair business in Rubbers at generally advancing rates, and the market under this heading closes firm.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled steady without any change to report. Sales at 990 have taken place and sellers at 995 rule the market at the close, while buyers at 990 continue to the fore. National Bank of China remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been a strong market and after several sales at 840 and 842½ close in demand at the latter rate. Cantons remain unchanged and without business. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have improved to 360 with sales and at time of closing buyers rule the market. Chinas have receded to 114 with sellers, but buyers at 113 fail to be satisfied.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao continue weak and after some small sales at 31½ close with further sellers at that rate. Douglases have receded to 33 with sellers on the publication of the report for the year ended 30th June, which shows a balance at the credit of P. & L. a/c of \$1,311.54 after payment of all running expenses, Insurance, and remuneration to the Consulting Committee and Auditors. The balance is recommended to be transferred to the Reserve Fund, from which it is proposed to take \$35,950.33 to provide for depreciation of the Company properties. Other stocks under this heading call for no special comment.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars in the early part of the week changed hands at 147½ and 147; but towards the close sales were effected at 146 and the market closes quiet at that rate. Luzons remain at 23 with no sales to report.

MINING.—The interest of the week has been centred in Langkats, which show another serious fall to 850, after small sales for the end of the year at 920 910 and 905, chiefly, if not entirely for covering purposes. At time of writing sellers rule the market in the North, and it is difficult to find buyers. Raubs have declined to 8½ with sellers, at which rate we have only small sales to report. Chinese Engineerings have declined to 17½, but buyers at that price rule the market.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks show a further fall and after sales during the week at 58, 57, and 56, close with sellers at the last rate and a weak market. Kowloon Wharfs have changed hands in fair lots at 61 and 60, closing with sales and buyers at the latter rate. Shanghai Docks remain steady at 77, after a small rise during the week to 78½. Hongkew Wharfs have ruled easier at 147.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been the medium of a fair investing business at 104, and at time of closing further shares are wanted at that rate. We have no further business nor changes to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos are quoted in the North at 138, and Soy Chees at 475, by wire; the other stocks under this heading are taken from the latest Shanghai circulars to hand, Hongkongs in the early part of the week were placed at 6½, but shares are obtainable at that rate at the close.

RUBBERS.—There has been a fair, but a somewhat erratic business during the week, rates ruling strong and with an advancing tendency in sympathy with a further great advance in Rubber and with an almost general advance in stocks in London. At the close several stocks are enquired for locally, but it is difficult to satisfy the demand at quoted rates. The following sales have taken place during the week: Shelfords at 33/6, 34/ & 34/6. Balgowines at 58, 60 and 62, Linggis at 24/ and 24/6.

Anglo-Malays at 14/9 at 15; Castlefields at £2 15, and £2 18. Kuala Lumpur at 61/ 62/, and 63/, and Ledburys at £2 7 6.

MISCELLANEOUS.—With the exception of Union Water Boats at 10½ and Dairys at 18½ and 18 we have no sales to report under this heading. China Lights have declined to 6½ with sellers and Cements are offering at 8.60, further than these we have no changes or business to report.

Quotations are as follows:—

STOCKS	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$990, buyers
National B. of China	£6	\$65, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	12/6d.	\$10, buyers
China-Borneo Co.....	\$12	\$13½, sellers
China Light & P. Co....	\$10	\$6½, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9.60, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	Tls. 133
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	\$6½, sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 92
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 113
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 475
Dairy Farm Co.....	\$6	\$18
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$60, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$56, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$9, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 77
S'hai & H. Wharf....	Tls. 100	Tls. 147
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$11, sellers
G. Island Cement Co	\$10	\$8.60, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas....	\$10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Electric....	\$10	\$20½, sellers
Hongkong Hotel Co. {	\$50	\$72½
Hongkong Ice Co.....	\$25	\$43½
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$188, sellers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$23
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$180, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$114, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$92, buyers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$360, sales & buy.
North China	\$5	Tls. 115
Union	\$100	\$42½, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$230
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$104½, sellers
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
Shanghai Land.....	Tls. 50	Tls. 120
West Point Building	\$50	\$44, sellers
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$625, buyers
Raub	18/10d.	\$8½, sellers
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$14, sellers
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$10	\$1.40, sellers
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$10	\$9, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$146, sales & sel.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$23, sellers
Robinson Piano Co. ...	\$50	\$50, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila...	\$25	\$8½, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$33, sellers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$31½, sales & sel.
Indo-China S. N. Co.	£5	\$41, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	£1	70/6
Star Ferry	\$5	\$15, sellers
South China M. Post...	\$25	\$24, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.....	\$5	\$5½
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M & Co....	\$10	\$12
Wm. Powell, Ltd.	\$7	\$4, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$5, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Weissmann, Ltd.....	\$100	\$150, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$12½, buyers
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$300
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$10½, sales
Rubbers—		
Castlefields, fully p.	—	£22.18.0, sales
Ltnggis	—	24/- buyers
Anglo-Malays	—	15/- buyers
Shelfords	—	34/6, sales
Balgownies	—	\$62 (Straits), buy.

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

16th September, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP	QUOTATION
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,025
National of China...	£6	\$50, sales
Russo-Chinese	R187½	Tls. 125
Insurance—		
Union Society C't n	\$100	\$840, sales & buy.
North-China	£5	Tls. 115
Yangtze Assocn. ...	\$60	\$232
Canton	\$50	\$1½, sellers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$350, buyers
China Fire.....	\$20	\$115, sellers
Shipping—		
Indo - China { pref. }	£5	Tls. 44, sellers
Shell Trans. { ord. }	£1	69/6
& Trading { pref. }	£10	\$9.10.0
S'hai Tug & { pref. }	T50	Tls. 43½, sellers
Lighter ... { ord. }	T50	Tls. 52, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 45
Kochien Transporta-	T50	Tls. 50, sales
tion & To Boat		
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng...	T100	Tls. 77, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$61½, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf...	T100	Tls. 149, sellers
H. K'loon W. & G...	\$50	\$60, buyers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 190, sales
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation...	T50	Tls. 325
China Refining.....	\$100	\$147½, sales
Mining:—		
Raub Australian ...	£1	Tls. \$8, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	Tls. 17½, sales
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment ..	T50	Tls. 120, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$105, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	T10	\$9½, sellers
Weiheiwei.....	T20	Tls. 9
China	T50	Tls. 50
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 106, sales
Cotton:—		
Ewo.....	T50	Tls. 137, sales
Internationals	T75	Tls. 89, sellers
Laou Kung Mow ...	T100	Tls. 110, buyers
Soy Chees	T50	Tls. 460, buyers
H.C.S.W.D.Co., Ltd.	\$10	Tls. 7½, sellers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 112, sellers
Major Brothers.....	T50	Tls. 52½
Shanghai Ice.....	T25	Tls. 15
China Flour Mill...	T50	Tls. 40, buyers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 35, buyers
Green Is. Cement...	\$10	\$8½, buyers
Shanghai Cotton ...	T50	Tls. 78, sales
Maatschappij, &c.,	Gs. 100	Tls. 900, Spt. sal.
in Langkat.....		
Shanghai - Sumatra	T20	Tls. 112½, sel & b.
Tobacco	T6	Tls. 14, sellers
Dominion Rubbers...	£20	Tls. 425, sales
S'hai Waterworks...	\$100	\$82½, buyers
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	T50	Tls. 23½, sales
A. Butler Cement,	T50	Tls. 220, sales
Tile Works	T100	Tls. 280, sellers
Kalumpang Rubber	£1	Tls. 16½, sales
S. Rber Estates ...	£10	Tls. 10
T. R. & T. Estate Co.		
Eastern Fibre	£10	£70.0.0, sal. & buy.
Shanghai Electric		
Construction.....		
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz.....	\$20	\$23, sellers
A. Llewellyn.....	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$9
Central Ordinary...	\$15	\$17½, buyers
Central Founders...	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co. ...	\$50	\$42½
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$27, sellers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$17½, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$75 old \$45 new
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 5½
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	Tls. 75
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	\$165
Dunning & Co.	\$50	\$35
S'hai Horse Bazar...	T50	Tls. 55
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 66, buyers
China Im. & Ex.		
Lumber	T100	Tls. 75
Shanghai Electric &		
Asbestos	\$25	\$20½, sellers
Dallas Horse Re-		
pository	T50	Tls. 15
China Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their Share Report for the week ending Sept. 16th state:—The market has continued in active state during the week, operations being concerned with the September settlement due on the 24th. The chief feature has been the steady decline in Langkat shares, for which we can assign no cause except the speculative operations in connection with the Settlement. The T.T. rate on London to-day is 2/4. Bank.—H. & S. Banks. Shares have changed hands at \$1,025, the only transaction on the 14th instant. Marine & Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—No business reported. Shanghai Tugs are quoted at Tls. 43½ sales of Ord. and Tls. 52 buyers of Pref. shares. Sugars.—Peraks. Sales are reported on the 13th at Tls. 310, September 310/313/315 cash. On the 14th at Tls. 315 September and Tls. 330 December. On the 16th at Tls. 332½ December, closing at 325 nominal. Mining.—No business reported. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. On the 10th sales took place at Tls. 144½ December. On the 11th at Tls. 149 and Tls. 148½ December. On the 14th at Tls. 148-147½ September. On the 15th at Tls. 148 and Tls. 149 September. On the 16th at Tls. 150-152 September and Tls. 149 December. Closing with Sellers at Tls. 149 and Buyers at Tls. 146 cash. Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co. Transactions took place on the 11th at Tls. 80½ September. On the 13th at Tls. 78 and Tls. 79 September. On the 14th at Tls. 77 cash, closing with buyers at this rate. Lands.—Anglo-French Lands changed hands on the 11th and 13th at Tls. 106 cash. Shanghai Land Investment Co. On the 11th a sale took place at Tls. 120 September. On the 13th at Tls. 119½ and Tls. 120 cash, and on the 15th at Tls. 120 cash. Industrial.—Cotton Stocks. Laou-Kung-Mows. Sales on the 10th at Tls. 116 December. On the 13th at Tls. 112 September. Soy Chees changed hands at Tls. 457½ cash on the 11th. Ewos found buyers on the 11th at Tls. 142 December. China Flour. Transactions are reported on the 10th and 14th at Tls. 41 respectively. In Rubber Stocks. Tebongs were sold on the 11th, 13th and 15th at Tls. 16½ for September. Kalumpungs were reported on the 13th at Tls. 202½ cash, on the 14th at Tls. 225 December and on the 15th at Tls. 220 September. Dominions were sold on the 13th at Tls. 14½ and on the 16th at Tls. 14. Senwangs changed hands on the 15th at Tls. 280 September. Shanghai Waterworks. A single transaction took place on the 13th at Tls. 425 cash, and in A. Butler Cement Co. on the 14th at Tls. 23½. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. This market opened at Tls. 1,025, 1,027½, 1,020 September Tls. 1,045 and Tls. 1,040 December. On the 11th at Tls. 1,020 and Tls. 1,010 Sept. and Tls. 1,040 Dec. On the 13th at Tls. 1,030, 1,015, 1,000 Dec. Tls. 990 Sept. and Tls. 985 cash. On the 14th at Tls. 980 and Tls. 970 Dec. On the 15th at Tls. 970-960-955 and 950 c.d. Dec. Tls. 950 and Tls. 945 c.d. Sept. On the 16th at Tls. 945 x.d. Sept. and Tls. 957½ x.d. Dec., closing with sellers at Tls. 935 cash and Tls. 950 Sept. Shanghai Sumatras changed hands on the 10th at Tls. 132½ Sept. On the 11th at Tls. 133½ Sept. and Tls. 137½ Dec. On the 13th at Tls. 130 Sept., on the 14th at Tls. 135 Sept. and Tls. 127½ Dec. On the 16th Tls. 120 Sept. and Tls. 120-115 Dec. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Tramway shares were placed on the 14th at £7. Loans and Debentures.—No business.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, September 27th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	219
Credits 4 months' sight	223
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	178
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42½
Credits, 60 days' sight	43½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131
Bank, on demand	131½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131
Bank on demand	131½

ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight.....	74½
Private, 30 days' sight	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	84½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	85½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	74½
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	104½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand.....	8½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand.....	8½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	88½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate.....	\$11.45
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$59.80
BAR SILVER per oz	23½

FREIGHT.

Hankow, 16th Sept.—Per Conference Steamers to London and Northern Continental ports, 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre, 47/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), General Cargo, 32/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload; Tea G \$1.50 cents per lb gross less than carload; Tea G \$1.75 cents per lb gross; plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 2.50 per ton, weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September:—

- ARRIVALS.
- 16, Hainun, British str., from Swatow.
 - 17, Assaye, British str., from Shanghai.
 - 17, Indrasamha, British str., from New York.
 - 17, Johanne, German str., from Swatow.
 - 17, Peshawur, British str., from Singapore.
 - 17, Signal, German str., from Hoihow.
 - 17, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 - 18, Amara, British str., from Samarang.
 - 18, Derwent, British str., from Saigon.
 - 18, Fooksang, British str., from Japan.
 - 18, Hunan, British str., from Chefoo.
 - 18, Singan, British str., from Haiphong.
 - 19, Choising, German str., from Bangkok.
 - 19, Dakotah, British str., from Manila.
 - 19, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 - 19, Glenfalloch, British str., from Penang.
 - 19, Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.
 - 19, Haldis, Nor. str., from Bangkok.
 - 19, Hukchow, British str., from Tientsin.
 - 19, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 - 19, Pitsanulok, British str., from Bangkok.
 - 19, Taiyuan, British str., from Melbourne.
 - 20, Amiral Duperre, Fr. str., from Singapore.
 - 20, Aragonia, German str., from Shanghai.
 - 20, Atsuta Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 - 20, Bujun Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 - 20, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
 - 20, Eastern, British str., from Melbourne.
 - 20, Frithjof, Nor. str., from Haiphong.
 - 20, Lyndhurst, British str., from New York.
 - 20, Shangtung, British str., from Sourabaya.
 - 20, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 - 21, Bessie Dollar, Br. str., from Tsingtau.
 - 21, Chipshing, British str., from Tientsin.
 - 21, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 - 21, Harford, Br. str., from New York.
 - 21, Kweiyang, British str., from Chefoo.
 - 21, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
 - 21, Prinz Sigismund, Ger. str., from Sydney.
 - 22, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
 - 22, Anhui, British str., from Shanghai.
 - 22, Chihli, Brit. str., from Wakamatsu.
 - 22, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 - 22, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 - 22, Linan, British str., from Shanghai.
 - 22, Luetzow, German str., from Hamburg.
 - 22, Monmouthshire, Brit. str., from London.
 - 22, Shibetoro Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 - 22, Teenkai, British str., from Singapore.
 - 22, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 - 23, Borneo, British str., from Yokohama.
 - 23, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
 - 23, Kitano Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.

- 23, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 - 23, Nippon, Austrain str., from Shanghai.
 - 23, Thordis, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 - 23, Tranquebar, Danish str., for Port Said.
 - 23, Wongkoi, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 - 24, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
 - 24, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 - 24, Helene, German str., from Hoihow.
 - 24, Somali, British str., from Antwerp.
 - 24, Tean, British str., from Manila.
 - 24, Yatshing, British str., from Chinwantao.
- September:— DEPARTURES.
- 17, Catherine Apear, Brit. str., for Singapore.
 - 17, Ceylon Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
 - 17, Glenogle, British str., for Amoy.
 - 17, Haitan British str., for Swatow.
 - 17, Hanyang, British str., for Swatow.
 - 17, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 - 17, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 - 17, Merapi, Dutch str., for Amoy.
 - 17, Yaroslav, Russian str., for Shanghai.
 - 18, Assaye, British str., for Europe, &c.
 - 18, Austria, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 - 18, Indrapura, British str., for Singapore.
 - 18, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
 - 18, Monteagle, British str., for Vancouver.
 - 18, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 - 18, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 - 18, Sungkiang, British str., for Cebu.
 - 18, Victoria, Swedish str., for Haiphong.
 - 19, Chenan, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 19, Cheongshing, British str., for Swatow.
 - 19, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 - 19, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 - 19, Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
 - 19, Liangchow, British str., for Chinkiang.
 - 19, Marie, German str., for Saigon.
 - 19, Peshawur, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 19, Prometheus, British str., for Bangkok.
 - 19, Signal, German str., for Swatow.
 - 19, Tingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 20, Indrasamha, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 20, Taishun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 - 21, Amiral Duperre, Fr. str., for Shanghai.
 - 21, Aragonia, German str., for Singapore.
 - 21, Chowfa, German str., for Swatow.
 - 21, Chunsang, British str., for Saigon.
 - 21, Dakotah, British str., for Hoihow.
 - 21, Germania, German str., for Hongay.
 - 21, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 - 21, Haiyang, British str., for Swatow.
 - 21, Hyson, British str., for Singapore.
 - 21, Kiang Ping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
 - 21, Kowloon, German str., for Saigon.
 - 21, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 21, Paoting, British str., for Swatow.
 - 21, Sexta, German str., for Batavia.
 - 21, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 - 22, Bujun Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 - 22, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 - 22, Eastern, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 22, Atsuta Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 - 22, Bessie Dollar, British str., for Whampao.
 - 22, Borneo, British str., for Singapore.
 - 22, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 - 22, Changchow, British str., for Ningpo.
 - 22, Fooksang, British str., for Singapore.
 - 22, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Hoihow.
 - 22, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 - 22, Haldis, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 - 22, Johanne, German str., for Hoihow.
 - 22, Luetzow, German str., for Shanghai.
 - 22, Pitsanulok, British str., for Bangkok.
 - 22, Sorsogon, American str., for Manila.
 - 22, Taiyuan, Brit. str., for Australian ports.
 - 22, Teenkai, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 22, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 22, Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 22, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 22, Hanoi, French str., for Q. Chow Wan.
 - 22, Kitano Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 - 22, Kwangse, British str., for Shanghai.
 - 22, Shangtung, British str., for Sourabaya.
 - 22, Singan, British str., for Hoihow.
 - 22, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Linan*, from Shanghai, Mr Dewsbury.
- Per *Haiyang*, from Coast Ports, Mr Giffin.
- Per *Nippon*, from Shanghai, Mr. Koemeke.
- Per *Fooksang*, from Moji, Mr and Mrs Stevens.
- Per *Monmouthshire*, from London, &c., Mrs Morse Goddard and Mr W. Pybus.
- Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs Bothelo, and 3 children, General Broadwood and Major G. P. Howell.

Per *Daigi Maru*, from Swatow, Mr Fooper.
Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Miss Grant and Masters A. and R. Greaves.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Messrs Edwards Ros, daughter and child, Alberto Sarfate and D. Langmann.

Per *Chipshing*, from Tientsin, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lammert, Mr and Mrs. De Jong, Masters Oswald and Frank Lammert.

Per *Tean*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs Blach, Mr and Mrs Brush, Miss Burrows, Messrs Konieny, Villene, McAustin and Wright.

Per *Anhui*, from Shanghai, Mrs Barlow, Mrs Stringer, Miss Sullivan, Messrs Wright, Welsh, Barry, Loureiro, Wilkie, Scott and Sullivan.

Per *Kitano Maru*, from London, &c., Mrs Stevenson and infant, Mrs Stratton and child, Messrs A. Mustard, R. Wallis Wilson and H. Woolfenden.

Per *Prinz Sigismund*, for Hongkong, from Sydney, Mrs Compere and child, Messrs C. Bromby and A. H. Sandies; from Friedrich Wilhelmshafen, Rev. Father Vormann and Mr Schulte; from Manila, Miss Adelina, Messrs T. P. Grant and C. A. Neff.

Per *Eastern*, from Melbourne, &c., His Excellency Governor and Lady Marques and servant, Mr and Mrs H. S. Dudley, Mr and Mrs Birmingham, Mr and Mrs C. G. Lyon, Mrs E. E. Parsons, infant and amah, Mrs Edgan and 2 children, Mrs Clinton and child, Mrs M. Asher, Misses Parsons, Watkins, Ward, Wiesner, F. Asher, B. Greenfield and M. Mayfield, His Lordship Bishop W. F. Oldham, Messrs J. H. Burwell, Booth and S. J. Asher.

Per *Empress of India*, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, B.C., Mr and Mrs Thos. Kydd, Lt. and Mrs Hunt, Mrs M. C. Chambers, Misses E. Churchill and D. McCue, Col. W. B. Lauder, Major S. Macdonald, Dr. D. G. Beebe, Messrs C. Wilton, M. M. Ramsay, and A. B. Canham; from Yokohama, Mr and Mrs Maunce, Mrs Bradley, 2 children and amah, and Miss Bradley; from Shanghai, Mrs F. Ones and child, Mrs J. H. Dayton, Mrs J. H. Collins, Mrs H. T. Kayes, Mrs L. Guffey, Mrs A. E. Stott, Miss W. White, Messrs W. F. Hamilton and Graham Hamilton.

Per *Somali*, for Hongkong, from Singapore, Mr and Mrs Loden, infant and 2 servants, Mr Richards and servant; from London, Mr and Mrs A. Rogerson, Mr and Mrs W. Drew, Mr and Mrs A. Harison, Mr and Mrs Meadows and child, Rev. R. and Miss Spink, Mrs Worth, child & infant, Police-Sgt. Titmas and Engr.-Comdr. Highton; for Manila, Mr and Mrs Hurst and infant; for Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Stenhouse, 2 infants and amah, Mr, Mrs and Miss Taylor, child and infant, Mr and Mrs Porter, child, 2 infants and governess, Mr and Mrs Hamilton, Mr and Mrs Ziedall, child and amah, Mr and Miss Wilkinson, Mrs Aires, Mrs Rodgers, Misses K. Colum, Ferguson and M. Dench, Capt. D. McClure, Capt. J. Woodham, Messrs A. Sutherland and T. M. Yates; for Yokohama, Rev. and Mrs J. Pate, Mrs J. Hall and infant, Mrs Grayrigge, child, infant and amah, Misses Pemudocke and S. Sweet.

DEPARTED.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mr and Mrs A. H. Fair, Lieut. and Mrs Hunt, Mrs Stott, Misses E. Gaulsen and F. Santos, Messrs L. A. Jerrings, Robt. Horne, Vicenti Rustia and S. L. Clark.

Per *Monteagle*, for Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs Ebersole, Mr and Mrs W. Robinson, Mr and Mrs C. H. Patterson, Mrs E. Painter and child, Mrs Woods, Mrs S. L. Clark, Lieut. J. M. Lopes, Count Genna Fernandes, Messrs H. P. Pattenden, J. Weissberger, S. Evans, R. Grant, J. Bayle, R. Ganong, M. Klein, G. R. Clerk and W. A. Sundkeimer.

Per *Atsuta Maru*, for London, Mr and Mrs A. Delcoigne and 3 children, Mrs Pooklington, Mrs Komma, Misses Hargreaves, Pooklington, Head and Amos, Hon. H. Ito, Major S. Nakagawa, Major Morescaux, Paymaster Nakamura, Messrs Alex. Danelsberg, S. Saito, Balamall, H. Ito, Isuji, Hdachi, M. Odagiri, Inouye, J. H. Burwell, J. Barton, Y. Yagi, N. Yoneda, I. Matsuzaki, Toned, Tagi, S. Noda and T. Hayashi.

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